

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

**2023 REGULAR SESSION**

**Introduced**

**House Bill 2470**

By Delegate Walker

[Introduced January 11, 2023; Referred to the  
Committee on Education]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new article,  
2 designated §18-21A-1, related to creating a state youth advisory council.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

**ARTICLE 21A. YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL.**

**§18-21A-1. Youth advisory council.**

1 There shall be a youth advisory council which shall advise and consult with the state Board  
2 of Education on matters including, but not limited to, issues important to the youth of West Virginia.

3 The youth advisory council shall be composed of 20 members appointed by the state  
4 Superintendent of Schools with a mission of improving the quality of life for young people within  
5 West Virginia, encouraging civic engagement with elected representatives, state agencies, and  
6 the Governor, and bridging the gap between the communities and public servants including, but  
7 not limited to, first responders. The youth advisory council may consult on issues that include  
8 communication skills training, exploration of potential barriers to education, and institutional  
9 policies that are sensitive to the needs of youth from culturally and linguistically diverse  
10 backgrounds.

11 The time and place of all meetings and agenda items must be publicly announced and  
12 available to the public upon request at least 10 days prior to the meeting, and meetings must be  
13 open to the public. Official minutes must be kept of all council meetings and shall be made  
14 available to the public upon request.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to create a youth advisory council to advise and consult with the state Board of Education.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.