WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2023 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 2903

By Delegate C. Pritt

[Introduced January 23, 2023; Referred to the

Committee on Education]

A BILL to amend and reenact §10-1-6 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to
ensuring that library boards who make decisions on books must have ideological equality.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 1. PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

§10-1-6. Board of library directors -- Powers and duties.

1 The board of directors of each public library established or maintained under this article 2 shall: (a) Immediately after appointment, meet and organize by electing one member as president 3 and one as secretary, and such other officers as may be necessary. All officers shall hold office for 4 one year and shall be eligible for reelection. (b) Adopt such bylaws, rules and regulations as are 5 necessary for its own guidance and for the administration, supervision and protection of the library 6 and all property belonging thereto as may not be inconsistent with the provisions of this article. (c) 7 Supervise the expenditure of all money credited to the library fund. All money appropriated or 8 collected for public library purposes shall be deposited in the treasury of the governing authority to 9 the credit of the library fund, to be paid out on the certified requisition of the library board, in the 10 manner provided by law for the disbursement of other funds of such governing authority, or shall 11 be deposited as the library's board of directors shall direct and be disbursed by the officer 12 designated by that board, such officer before entering upon his or her duties to give bond payable 13 to and in an amount fixed by the board of directors of the library, conditioned for the faithful 14 discharge of his or her official fiscal duties. The cost of such bond shall be paid from the library 15 fund. The books, records and accounts of the library board shall be subject to audit and 16 examination by the office of the State Tax Commissioner of West Virginia. (d) Lease or purchase 17 and occupy suitable quarters, or erect upon ground secured through gift or purchase, an 18 appropriate building for the use of such library; and have supervision, care, and custody of the 19 grounds, rooms or buildings constructed, leased, or set apart for library purposes. (e) Employ a 20 head librarian, and upon his or her recommendation employ such other assistants as may be 21 necessary for the efficient operation of the library. (f) Library boards who make decisions on books

22	placed	in	their	respective	libraries	shall	have	ideological	equality.
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NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to ensure that library boards who make decisions on books must have ideological equality.

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