

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2023 REGULAR SESSION**

**Introduced**

### **Senate Bill 687**

By Senators Azinger and Deeds

[Introduced February 20, 2023; referred  
to the Committee on Education; and then to the  
Committee on the Judiciary]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,  
2 designated §18-5-50, relating to requiring law enforcement agencies and child protective  
3 services to report certain allegations regarding school employees to county school  
4 personnel.

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

**ARTICLE 5. COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION.**

**§18-5-50. Transparency of allegations against school employees involving students.**

1 (a) The purpose of this section is to protect the children of West Virginia through  
2 the creation of requirements for communication and coordination of county school  
3 personnel, law enforcement agencies, Child Protective Services (CPS), and the  
4 Children's Listening Place.

5 (b) All law enforcement agencies that initiate an investigation of an employee of a  
6 school regarding allegations of inappropriate contact, abuse, neglect, or other crime  
7 involving a child attending a school, shall inform the county superintendent and human  
8 resources director within 48 hours. The law enforcement agency shall provide the county  
9 school personnel with the name of the employee and the allegations that are being  
10 investigated.

11 (c) If CPS initiates an investigation of an employee of a school regarding  
12 allegations of inappropriate contact, abuse, neglect, or other crime involving a child  
13 attending a school, CPS shall inform the county superintendent and human resources  
14 director within 48 hours. CPS shall provide the county school personnel with the name of  
15 the employee and the allegations that are being investigated.

16 (d) In the event that a law enforcement agency or CPS advises county school  
17 personnel of an investigation of a school employee regarding allegations of abuse,

- 18 neglect, inappropriate contact, or other crime regarding a student, the Children's  
19 Listening Place, or other places where children discuss potential abuse situations, shall  
20 provide all documentation and taped recordings of children to the superintendent and  
21 human resources director of the county where the crime allegedly occurred.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to create obligations on law enforcement and CPS to notify certain school personnel of investigations regarding school employees involving certain conduct towards students.

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