

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2024 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 5170

By Delegates Howell and Young

[Introduced January 25, 2024; Referred to the
Committee on Economic Development and Tourism
then Finance]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §5B-2-14 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, to
2 increase local economic development matching grants.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 2. DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

§5B-2-14. Certified development community program.

1 The certified development community program is continued and is transferred to,
2 incorporated in and administered as a program of the Department of Economic Development. The
3 program shall provide funding assistance to the participating economic development corporations
4 or authorities through a matching grant program. The department shall establish criteria for
5 awarding matching grants to the corporations or authorities within the limits of funds appropriated
6 by the Legislature for the program. The matching grants to eligible corporations or authorities are
7 in the amount of ~~\$30,000~~ \$50,000 for each fiscal year, if sufficient funds are appropriated by the
8 Legislature. The department shall recognize existing county, regional or multicounty corporations
9 or authorities where appropriate.

10 In developing its plan, the department shall consider resources and technical support
11 available through other agencies, both public and private, including, but not limited to, the state
12 college and university systems; the West Virginia Housing Development Fund; the West Virginia
13 Economic Development Authority; the West Virginia Parkways, Economic Development and
14 Tourism Authority; the West Virginia Round Table; the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce;
15 Regional Planning and Development Councils; Regional Partnership for Progress Councils; and
16 state appropriations.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to increase the size of matching grants for local economic development from \$30,000 to \$50,000.

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