

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2024 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 5597

By Delegates Tully, Toney, Burkhammer, Maynor,
Holstein, Ferrell, Dittman, Kimble, Summers, Statler,
and Willis

[Introduced February 12, 2024; Referred to the
Committee on Education then the Judiciary]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
 2 designated §17C-5-2c, relating to requiring that any school bus driver charged with driving
 3 under the influence with students present also be charged with child neglect for each
 4 student.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 5. SERIOUS TRAFFIC OFFENSES.

§17C-5-2c. School bus drivers charged with driving under the influence while students are present shall also be charged with child neglect.

1 Notwithstanding any provision of this code to the contrary, a person authorized by law to
 2 operate a school bus, as that term is defined in §17C-1-7 of this code, who is charged with driving
 3 under the influence of alcohol, controlled substances, or drugs under this article, while students
 4 are present on the school bus, shall also be charged with child neglect creating a risk of injury by a
 5 guardian or custodian pursuant to §61-8D-4 of this code.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require that a school bus driver charged with driving under the influence with students present also be charged with child neglect for each student.

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