

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2024 REGULAR SESSION**

**Introduced**

### **Senate Bill 715**

By Senators Takubo, Chapman, and Deeds

[Introduced February 7, 2024; 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 §18-2L-1, §18-2L-2, §18-2L-3, and §18-2L-4, all relating to the Stop the Bleed  
 3 Act; defining terms; establishing requirements for implementation of the act; and  
 4 addressing funding.

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

**ARTICLE 2L. STOP THE BLEED ACT.**

**§18-2L-1. Title of article.**

1 This article shall be known as the Stop the Bleed Act.

**§18-2L-2. Definitions.**

1 "Bleeding control kit" means a first aid response kit that contains at least the following:

2 (a) One tourniquet endorsed by the Committee on Tactical Combat Casualty Care;

3 (b) A compression bandage;

4 (c) Gauze dressing that can be used to apply pressure or pack a wound;

5 (d) Protective gloves and a permanent marker;

6 (e) Scissors;

7 (f) Instructional documents developed by the Stop the Bleed national awareness campaign

8 of the United States Department of Homeland Security or the American College of Surgeons on

9 Trauma, or both.

10 (g) Other medical materials and equipment similar to those described in subdivisions (a)

11 through (c) may be included provided that:

12 (1) Can adequately treat a traumatic injury; and

13 (2) Can be stored in a readily available kit.

**§18-2L-3. Implementation of the Stop the Bleed Act.**

1 (a) Beginning in the 2025-2026 school year, each county board of education shall develop

2 a Stop the Bleed (bleeding control) program which shall include the following requirements:

3 (1) Designate bleeding control kits assigned to classrooms and common areas in easily

4 accessible locations to be determined in conjunction with local first responders or the school safety  
5 specialist;

6 (2) Include bleeding control kits in the emergency plans of the school, including but not  
7 limited to the presentation and use of the bleeding control kits in all drills and emergencies;

8 (3) Provide bleeding control training every other year to faculty and staff of the school  
9 district that includes:

10 (A) Recognition of life-threatening bleeding / hemorrhage

11 (B) The proper application of direct pressure to control bleeding;

12 (C) The packing of wounds with dressings or bandages to control bleeding;

13 (D) The correct application of tourniquets.

14 (4) Incorporate bleeding control training into the curriculum for students in grades nine  
15 through twelve (9-12);

16 (5) Require bleeding control kits in school inventories to be inspected annually to ensure  
17 that materials, supplies, and equipment are replaced, as necessary;

18 (6) Require a bleeding control kit to be restocked after each use and materials, supplies,  
19 and equipment to be replaced, as necessary, to ensure that the bleeding control kit contains all  
20 necessary materials, supplies, and equipment.

21 (b) The county boards of education, in collaboration with the county boards of health and  
22 county Homeland Security, shall develop and provide training for the use of bleeding control kits.  
23 The county boards of health and county Homeland Security may satisfy the training requirements  
24 by using training, including online didactic training with an in-person hands-on skills component,  
25 available from the American College of Surgeons or similar organization.

26 (c) In all matters relating to a bleeding control program, school personnel are immune from  
27 civil liability for any act done or omitted in the use of a bleeding control kit unless the action  
28 constitutes gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct.

**§18-2L-4. Funding for Stop the Bleed Act.**

- 1            Funding to purchase sufficient bleeding control kits may be funded by individual donations,
- 2 gifts or by an appropriation by the Legislature for such purpose.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to create the Stop the Bleed Act to require implementation of the act in county schools and to permit private donations and funding by the Legislature.

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