

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

**2025 REGULAR SESSION**

**ENGROSSED**

**Committee Substitute**

**for**

**House Bill 2560**

By Delegates Linville, Browning, Chiarelli, and

Flanigan

[Originating in the Committee on Energy and Public

Works; Reported on March 3, 2025]



1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new article,  
2 designated §5B-2P-1, §5B-2P-2, and §5B-2P-3, relating to establishing Infrastructure  
3 Ready Jurisdictions; establishing the requirement for this designation; establishing  
4 rulemaking for these Infrastructure Ready Jurisdictions for the Department of Economic  
5 Development; awarding an additional five percent preferential scoring for entities on  
6 projects within these jurisdictions on all permissible grants; and providing that this is not  
7 available within an uncertified municipality even if the surrounding county or counties are  
8 certified.

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

**ARTICLE 2P. INFRASTRUCTURE READY JURISDICTIONS.**

**§5B-2P-1. Process.**

1 (a) Any political subdivision of this state which refrains from enacting, or, which repeals,  
2 any permitting requirements other than those contained in this code and the Code of State  
3 Regulations, may apply to the Department of Economic Development for a designation as an  
4 Infrastructure Ready Jurisdiction.

5 (b) The Department of Economic Development is hereby authorized to promulgate  
6 rules governing the process for certification as an Infrastructure Ready Jurisdiction: *Provided,*  
7 That those additional permitting requirements which would prevent certification as an  
8 infrastructure ready jurisdiction shall only be construed to be those permitting requirements which  
9 serve either to delay an infrastructure project or increase its cost.

**§5B-2P-2. Benefits.**

1 Any grant application for an infrastructure project, whether public or private, which is made  
2 by any entity within the corporate boundaries of a political subdivision of this state which is certified  
3 as an Infrastructure Ready Jurisdiction, shall receive five percent of the maximum score as  
4 preferential scoring on all grants permitted by or mandated by any provision of this Code, or by any  
5 portion of the Code of State Regulations, unless such preferential scoring is explicitly forbidden by

- 6 federal laws or regulations, or by any provision of this code. A total score may exceed 100% of the  
7 otherwise maximum achievable score if it results from the award of such preference as computed.

**§5B-2P-3. Multiple Subdivisions.**

- 1 The provisions of this article may not be utilized by applicants for projects situated within a  
2 municipality which has not been certified as an Infrastructure Ready Jurisdiction, even if a  
3 surrounding county or counties are so certified.