WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2025 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 2651

By Delegates Horst, Hornby, Heckert, Sheedy, Masters, Worrell, Maynor, W. Clark, Crouse, White, and Statler

[Introduced February 20, 2025; referred to the Committee on Education]

A BILL to amend and reenact §18-5-32 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to county boards of education; mandating that general and special supervisors or directors of instruction serve at the will and pleasure of the county board of education.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 5. COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION.

§18-5-32. Assistant superintendents; directors and supervisors of instruction and other educational activities.

(a) The county board, upon the recommendation of the county superintendent, may employ an assistant whose term of employment may be not less than one nor more than four years: *Provided,* That his or her term may not extend beyond that of the incumbent county superintendent.

(b) The board may not employ more than one assistant for each two hundred teachers or major fraction thereof.

(c) The county board, upon the recommendation of the county superintendent, is authorized to employ general and special supervisors or directors of instruction and of other educational activities as may be considered necessary.

(d) The employment of the assistant superintendent shall be on a twelve-month basis. The period of employment for ~~all others~~ general and special supervisors or directors of instruction ~~named herein~~ shall be employed at the ~~discretion~~ will and pleasure of the county board.

(e) Rules for qualifications of assistant superintendents, and directors and supervisors of instruction and of other educational activities shall be fixed by the state board: *Provided,* That the qualifications required for any assistant superintendent may not be higher than those required for the county superintendent: *Provided, however,* That the rules do not affect the status of any incumbent nor his or her right to succeed himself or herself in his or her assigned position.

(f) The county board is authorized to reimburse the employees for their necessary traveling expenses upon presentation of a monthly, itemized, sworn statement approved by the county superintendent.

(g) Any person employed under the foregoing provision of this section, provided he or she holds a valid teacher's certificate, shall be given continuing contract status as a teacher and shall hold that status unless dismissed for statutory reasons.

(h) The job duties of a professional educator employed under the provisions of this section, including a professional educator employed as a supervisor or central office administrator as defined in section one, article one, chapter eighteen-a of this code, shall include substitute teaching on at least three instructional days each school year: *Provided,* That the substitute teaching requirement of this subsection does not apply to the superintendent and those who have never held a teaching certificate or an administrative certificate.

(i) All acts or parts of acts inconsistent with this section are hereby repealed.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to establish that general and special supervisors or directors of instruction that may be employed by the county board are will and pleasure employees of the county board of education.

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