

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2025 REGULAR SESSION**

### **ENROLLED**

#### **Committee Substitute**

**for**

#### **House Bill 2718**

BY DELEGATES MCGEEHAN, HANSHAW (MR. SPEAKER),  
MASTERS, WORRELL, HORST, FUNKHOUSER, J. CANNON,  
HORNBY, AND LEAVITT

[Passed April 12, 2025; in effect 90 days from  
passage (July 11, 2025)]



1 AN ACT to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section,  
2 designated §18B-1D-12, relating to creating a State Advisory Council on Establishing a  
3 Military College; creating a state advisory council; providing the council's purpose;  
4 providing for the council's membership; providing for the council's meetings and business;  
5 creating a special fund; requiring the council to designate an executive director; providing  
6 for reimbursement of expenses; requiring biannual reports; providing a termination date  
7 for the council.

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

**ARTICLE 1D. HIGHER EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY.**

**§18B-1D-12. State Advisory Council on Establishing a Military College.**

1 (a) There is created the State Advisory Council on Establishing a Military College. The  
2 council's purpose is to study the viability and potential benefits of creating an accredited  
3 educational institution offering baccalaureate degrees that is patterned, to the extent practicable,  
4 after one or more of the six senior military colleges. The military college is intended to cultivate  
5 and produce excellent leaders of good character to serve our state. The council shall study issues  
6 related to the council's purpose, including the following:

- 7 (1) The social and civic impact of a military college upon this state;  
8 (2) Possible sites at which the military college could be located;  
9 (3) The fiscal impact of a military college upon this state;  
10 (4) Possible sources of funding the establishment and operation of a military college;  
11 (5) The development of a robust Reserve Officers' Training Corps program patterned after  
12 the Reserved Officers' Training Corps program at one or more of the six senior military colleges;  
13 (6) Issues relating to potential admission standards, codes of conduct, curricula, and  
14 degrees and programs offered; and  
15 (7) Any other issues that the council determines to be reasonably related to the council's  
16 purpose.

17 (b) The State Advisory Council on Establishing a Military College consists of seven voting  
18 members, all of whom are knowledgeable about and interested in issues relating to the council's  
19 purpose.

20 (c) Voting members shall be appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and  
21 consent of the Senate Appointments shall be made not later than 30 days after the effective date  
22 of this act. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as original appointments.

23 (d) The following four members shall be considered nonvoting members:

24 (1) The Adjutant General of the West Virginia National Guard, or his or her designee;

25 (2) The Secretary of the Department of Commerce, or his or her designee;

26 (3) The Chancellor of the Higher Education Policy Commission, or his or her designee;

27 and (4) A representative of a West Virginia, private, not-for-profit higher education  
28 institution.

29 (e) The members of the council shall select the chairperson and vice chairperson, who  
30 may not be employees of the state. The council shall hold its first meeting not later than 30 days  
31 after the appointment of its members. For purposes of the first meeting, the Adjutant General or  
32 his or her designee shall call and preside over the first meeting until a chair is selected. Thereafter,  
33 the council shall meet at the call of the chairperson or at least once per quarter.

34 (f) There is hereby created a special revenue fund in the State Treasury designated the  
35 Military College Advisory Council Fund, which consists of any appropriations to the fund, all  
36 interest earned from investment of the fund, and any gifts, grants, or contributions received by the  
37 fund. Expenditures from the fund shall be for the purposes set forth in this section. The board  
38 retains the amount in the special revenue fund from year to year. No compensation or expense  
39 incurred under this section is a charge against the General Revenue Fund. The special revenue  
40 fund shall expire on June 30, 2028, and all such remaining funds shall transfer to the General  
41 Revenue Fund.

42           (g) Not later than 60 days after its first meeting, the council shall employ an executive  
43     director, who serves at the council's will and pleasure. The council shall set the qualifications for  
44     and salary of the position of executive director. The council may not select one of its own members  
45     to serve as executive director.

46           (h) The executive director and members of the council are entitled to reimbursement for  
47     all reasonable and necessary expenses actually incurred in the performance of their duties.  
48     Members are not entitled to compensation for services performed as members.

49           (i) The council shall report biannually to the Legislative Joint Committee on Government  
50     and Finance on the activities of the council. The first report shall be filed on or before the second  
51     Wednesday in January, 2026.

52           (j) The State Advisory Council on Establishing a Military College terminates on June 30,  
53     2028.



The Clerk of the House of Delegates and the Clerk of the Senate hereby certify that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

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*Clerk of the House of Delegates*

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*Clerk of the Senate*

Originated in the House of Delegates.

In effect 90 days from passage.

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*Speaker of the House of Delegates*

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*President of the Senate*

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The within is ..... this the.....  
Day of ....., 2025.

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*Governor*