# WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

### **2025 REGULAR SESSION**

Introduced

## House Bill 2760

FISCAL NOTE

By Delegates Hornby, Ellington, Horst, D. Smith,

Chiarelli, Willis, Kyle, Crouse, Holstein, Statler, and

Sheedy

[Introduced February 21, 2025; referred to the

Committee on Education then Finance]

| 1 | A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article,        |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| 2 | designated §21A-12-1, relating to establishing a partnership between Workforce West          |  |  |  |
| 3 | Virginia through its Division of Workforce Development and the West Virginia State Board     |  |  |  |
| 4 | of Education for the implementation of an educational, interactive platform designed to      |  |  |  |
| 5 | help students with instruction in the science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM)      |  |  |  |
| 6 | field with a focus on chemistry and related careers to high schools and technical schools in |  |  |  |
| 7 | the state; providing funding; and establishing an implementation plan and reporting.         |  |  |  |
|   |  |  |  |  |

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

## ARTICLE 12. PARTNERSHIP WITH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR SCIENCE EDUCATION.

#### §21A-12-1. STEM interactive educational program partnership with West Virginia State

|    | Board   | of                                      | Education.                    |  |
|----|---|---|-------------------------------|--|
| 1  | (a) Beginning for the   | school year 2025-2026, the Workforc     | e West Virginia's Division of |  |
| 2  | Workforce Development shall partner with the State Board of Education to implement a program in |   |                               |  |
| 3  | phases to provide chemistry and other science-based and math-based training through an          |   |                               |  |
| 4  | educational, interactive platform designed to help students with instruction in the science,    |   |                               |  |
| 5  | technology, engineering, and math (STEM) field with a focus on chemistry and related careers to |   |                               |  |
| 6  | high schools and technical schools in the state.  |   |                               |  |
| 7  | (b) Workforce West Vi   | rginia's Division of Workforce Develop  | ment shall select 10 schools  |  |
| 8  | for the first two years of this p   | <u>ogram.</u>                           |                               |  |
| 9  | (c) After two years, the program shall be open to all high schools and technical schools in     |   |                               |  |
| 10 | the state that choose to participate;   |   |                               |  |
| 11 | <u>(d) Subject to legisla</u>   | tive appropriation for this purpose,    | schools participating in the  |  |
| 12 | program shall be provided w   | ith instructional resources for student | s and teachers that use an    |  |
| 13 | educational, interactive platfo   | orm designed to help students with      | instruction in the science    |  |

1

Intr HB

- technology engineering and math (STEM) field with a focus on chemistry and related careers for
  instruction.
- 16 (e) Administrators and teachers at the participating schools shall be provided access to the 17 educational, interactive platform designed to help students with instruction in the science 18 technology engineering and math (STEM) field with a focus on chemistry and related careers 19 educational system as part of their professional development and support. 20 (f) Funding for this program shall be provided by the Department of Commerce to 21 Workforce West Virginia's Division of Workforce Development. 22 (g) The program shall be designed and implemented to compliment and build upon the 23 digital literacy standards and assessments established pursuant to §18-2-12, §18-2E-5(c), §18-24 2E-5(d), and §18-2E-12 of this code. 25 (h) On or before January 1, 2027, the state board shall submit to the Governor and the 26 Legislative Oversight Committee on Education Accountability an evaluation of the educational, 27 interactive platform designed to help students with instruction in the science, technology, 28 engineering, and math (STEM) field with a focus on chemistry and related careers educational 29 partnership between Workforce West Virginia's Division of Workforce Development and the State 30 Board of Education's impact on the performance and progress of students at the participating 31 schools. The evaluation shall include a recommendation for this program's continuation, 32 expansion or termination and, if recommended for continuation or expansion, any 33 recommendations for program modifications and utilization of the successful participating schools
- 34 <u>as demonstration sites to facilitate program expansion.</u>

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to establish a partnership between Workforce West Virginia through its Division of Workforce Development and the West Virginia Board of Education for the implementation of the teaching program in high schools and technical schools in the state, establishing an implementation plan and reporting.

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