

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

**2025 REGULAR SESSION**

**ENGROSSED**

**Committee Substitute**

**for**

**House Bill 2835**

By Delegate Linville

[Originating in the Committee on Energy and Public

Works; Reported on March 13, 2025]



A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §5A-6-8, relating to creating the West Virginia Infrastructure Deployment Clearinghouse; establishing its purposes, policies, and standards; providing for its funding; and establishing reporting requirements.

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

**ARTICLE 6. OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY.**

**§5A-6-8. West Virginia Infrastructure Clearinghouse; created; requirements.**

(a) The Secretary of the Department of Administration shall coordinate and lead the various state departments, divisions, and agencies including the West Virginia Geographic Information System Technical Center, created by Executive Order No. 4-93, in conjunction with its West Virginia GIS Data Clearinghouse, in creating the West Virginia Infrastructure Deployment Clearinghouse as a statewide, map-based data hub to further economic development, serve the needs of the citizens of the state, state agencies and other governmental entities by facilitating infrastructure installations in an economic and timely manner.

(b) The director of the West Virginia GIS Technical Center shall set standards for the acquisition, management, and reporting of geospatial information and the acquisition, creation or use of applications employing such information by any executive branch agency. In establishing such capacity, policies, or standards they shall consult with state agencies, local governments, and other users of geospatial information system technology. The purpose of the Infrastructure Clearinghouse is to facilitate communication and coordination regarding the use of geospatial information system technology, promote economic development through expansion of broadband capabilities and services, eliminate duplicative use of such technology and expand the use of geospatial information within the state.

(c) The policies and standards of the Infrastructure Clearinghouse shall provide Clearinghouse users with as much information as possible while protecting specific information which are protected by law from public release.

20           (d) The Secretary of the Department of Administration or his or her designee, will be  
21 responsible for and manage the operations of the West Virginia Infrastructure Deployment  
22 Clearinghouse which will be located at the West Virginia GIS Technical Center. Both the Chief  
23 Information Officer and the director of the West Virginia GIS Technical Center will conduct  
24 outreach and educational efforts to secure the maximum participation in providing information for  
25 the Clearinghouse.

26           (e) The Secretary of the Department of Administration or the director of the West Virginia  
27 GIS Technical Center may apply for and receive federal, state, and private grants that may be  
28 available. Additional funding may be provided by the individual participating state government  
29 departments and divisions, the Governor's office, the West Virginia Legislature, the United States  
30 government, and any other agency or organization, public or private. The Secretary or director  
31 may, in lieu of or in addition to the above listed funding sources, assess a fee for services rendered  
32 to those individuals, agencies, and businesses utilizing the West Virginia Infrastructure  
33 Deployment Clearinghouse.

34           (f) All moneys collected shall be deposited in a special account in the State Treasury to be  
35 known as the Infrastructure Clearinghouse Fund. Expenditures from the fund shall be for the  
36 purposes set forth in this section and are not authorized from collections but are to be made only in  
37 accordance with appropriation by the Legislature and in accordance with the provisions of §12-3-1  
38 et seq. of this code and upon fulfillment of the provisions of §11B-2-1 et seq. of this code: *Provided,*  
39 That for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, expenditures are authorized from collections rather  
40 than pursuant to appropriation by the Legislature.

41           (g) On or before December 31, 2027, and annually thereafter, the director of the West  
42 Virginia GIS Technical Center will report to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House  
43 of Delegates, and the Joint Committee on Technology and Infrastructure.