# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2025 REGULAR SESSION**

## Introduced

## House Bill 3185

By Delegates Worrell, Dean, Toney, Flanigan, Moore,

B. Smith, Bridges, Foggin, Shamblin, Willis, and

**Browning** 

[Introduced March 06, 2025; referred to the

Committee on Finance]

Intr HB 2025R3619

A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section,
designated §11-21-11a, relating to taxable income of residents; and creating the Taxpayer

Protection Act designed to ensure that individual taxpayers are not misclassified.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

#### **ARTICLE 21. PERSONAL INCOME TAX.**

#### §11-21-11a. Taxpayer Protection Act.

1 (a) In order to prevent the misclassification of resident individual taxpayers as independent 2 contractors and ensure the state rightfully receives taxes from employment, the Tax 3 Commissioner shall implement an "ABC" test for an independent contractor follows: 4 (1) Absence of Control – Is the worker taxpayer free from the direction or control of the 5 employer?; 6 (2) Business of Worker -- Is the worker taxpayer 's task unusual, with regards to the hiring 7 employer's business?; and 8 (3) Customarily Engaged -- Is the worker taxpayer customarily independent from the 9 employer? Do the worker taxpayers have their own business identify on the open market? 10 (b) A worker taxpayer is presumed to be an independent contractor unless a hiring entity or 11 employer can demonstrate all three of the following: 12 (1) The worker taxpayer is subject to the type and degree of control a business typically 13 exercises over employees; 14 (2) The worker taxpayer performs the work under the direction of, and is economically 15 responsible to, the principal; and 16 (3) The work is performed under the direction of, and is economically responsible to, the 17 principal.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to create the Taxpayer Protection Act designed to ensure that individual taxpayers are not misclassified.

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

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