

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2025 REGULAR SESSION**

**Introduced**

### **Senate Bill 238**

By Senator Woodrum

[Introduced February 12, 2025; referred  
to the Committee on Government Organization]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §15A-8-2 and §15A-8-3 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as  
2 amended, relating to the composition of the West Virginia Regional Jail and Correctional  
3 Facility Authority Board; and scheduled meetings.

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

**ARTICLE 8. REGIONAL JAIL AND CORRECTIONAL FACILITY AUTHORITY BOARD.**

**§15A-8-2. West Virginia Regional Jail and Correctional Facility Authority Board;  
composition; appointment; terms; compensation and expenses.**

1 The West Virginia Regional Jail and Correctional Facility Authority Board is continued. The  
2 members of the board in office on the date this section takes effect shall, unless sooner removed,  
3 continue to serve until their respective terms expire and until their successors have been  
4 appointed and qualified.

5 The authority shall be governed by a board of ~~nine~~ 11 members, ~~seven~~ nine of whom are  
6 entitled to vote on matters coming before the authority. The complete governing board shall  
7 consist of the Commissioner of the Division of Corrections; the Assistant Commissioner for the  
8 Bureau of Juvenile Services; the Secretary of the Department of ~~Military Affairs and Public Safety~~  
9 Homeland Security; the Secretary of the Department of Administration, or his or her designated  
10 representative; ~~two~~ four county commissioners and one sheriff appointed by the Governor, no  
11 more than two of which may be of the same political party; and two citizens appointed by the  
12 Governor to represent the areas of law and medicine. The Commissioner of the Division of  
13 Corrections and Rehabilitation and the Assistant Commissioner for the Bureau of Juvenile  
14 Services shall serve in an advisory capacity and are not entitled to vote on matters coming before  
15 the authority. Members of the Legislature are not eligible to serve on the board.

16 The Governor shall nominate and, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate,  
17 appoint the five appointed members of the authority for staggered terms of four years.

18 Any appointed member whose term has expired shall serve until his or her successor has  
19 been duly appointed and qualified. Any person appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve only for the

unexpired term. Any appointed member is eligible for reappointment. Members of the board are not entitled to compensation for services performed as members but are entitled to reimbursement for all reasonable and necessary expenses actually incurred in the performance of their duties.

All members of the board shall execute an official bond in a penalty of \$10,000, conditioned as required by law. Premiums on the bond shall be paid from funds accruing to the Division of Corrections and Rehabilitation. The bond shall be approved as to form by the Attorney General and as to sufficiency by the Governor and, when fully executed and approved, shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of State.

**§15A-8-3. Governing body; organization and meetings; quorum; administrative expenses.**

(a) The board shall consist of the voting members of the board as provided for in §15A-8-2 of this code and shall exercise all the powers given to the authority in this article. On the second Monday of July of each odd-numbered year, the board shall meet to elect a chairman and a secretary from among its own members. The Secretary of the Department of Administration or his or her designated representative shall serve as treasurer of the board. The board shall otherwise meet ~~two~~ four times a year unless a special meeting is called by its chairman.

(b) A majority of the members of the board constitute a quorum, and a quorum must be present for the board to conduct business. Unless the bylaws require a larger number, action may be taken by majority vote of the members present.

(c) The board shall prescribe, amend, and repeal bylaws and rules governing the manner in which the business of the authority is conducted and shall review and approve the budget prepared by the executive director annually.

(d) All costs incidental to the administration of the board shall be paid from the jail operation fund by the Commissioner of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to is to increase the composition of the West Virginia Regional Jail and Correctional Facility Authority Board to 11 members, add additional county commissioners, and increase meetings to four times a year.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law

and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.