WEST virginia legislature

2025 regular session

Committee Substitute

for

Senate Bill 283

By Senator Grady

[Reported February 19, 2025, from the Committee on Education]

A BILL to amend and reenact §18-2-7c of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to expanding the grade levels that the course of study in personal finance can be completed in for the purpose of counting toward satisfying the personal finance course requirement for high school graduation; and providing that the expansion of the grade levels applies retroactively.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 2. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

§18-2-7c. Program in personal finance.

(a) The Legislature finds and declares that persons with an understanding of personal finance are better prepared to manage their money and that providing a personal finance program in secondary schools in West Virginia will prepare students to handle their finances.

(b) To provide students a basic understanding of personal finance, the state board shall develop a program of instruction on personal finance which may be integrated into the curriculum of an appropriate existing course or courses for students in secondary schools.

(c) Beginning with the class of students entering 9th grade in the 2024-2025 school year and thereafter, each high school student shall complete one-half credit course of study in personal finance during their 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th grade year as a requirement for high school graduation. The expansion of the grade levels to the 9th and 10th grade during the 2025 regular session of the Legislature applies retroactively so that a student who has taken the finance course during the 9th or 10th grade year prior to the effective date of the expansion satisfies the personal finance course graduation requirement of this subsection. The State Board of Education shall develop and issue implementation guidance to local school boards and other education agencies as to curriculum, content matter standards, eligible teacher certification(s), and graduation requirements the course may fulfill before July 1, 2024.

(d) Every student shall complete a course in personal finance prior to high school graduation.