

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2025 REGULAR SESSION

Engrossed

Committee Substitute

for

Senate Bill 790

BY SENATOR MAYNARD

[Reported March 27, 2025, from the Committee on

Government Organization]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding four new sections,
2 designated §8-19-1a, §8-20-1d, §16-13-18b, and 16-13A-1d, relating to requiring quarterly
3 reporting by water and wastewater utilities that are political subdivisions of the state to
4 their governing bodies; and requiring annual continuing education for board members and
5 senior management.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

CHAPTER 8. MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS.

ARTICLE 19. MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY WATERWORKS AND ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEMS.

§8-19-1a. Municipality or county commission to require reporting and training.

1 (a) The Legislature finds that municipal and county waterworks provide critical water utility
2 services to West Virginians. Proper oversight by governing bodies and board member training are
3 necessary to ensure financial accountability, regulatory compliance, and operational efficiency.

4 (b) Any municipal governing body that is operating or has oversight of a waterworks
5 system shall require that waterworks system to provide quarterly operational and financial reports
6 to the governing body of the municipality.

7 (c) Any county commission with oversight of a waterworks system shall require that
8 waterworks system to provide quarterly operational and financial reports to the county
9 commission.

10 (d) Continuing education. — Any municipal governing body or county commission that is
11 operating or has oversight of a waterworks system shall require all board members and senior
12 managers of the municipal or county waterworks system to complete at least six hours of
13 continuing education annually, focusing on financial management, regulatory compliance, and
14 operational best practices.

ARTICLE 20. COMBINED SYSTEMS.

§8-20-1d. Municipality to require reporting and training.

1 (a) The Legislature finds that combined municipal waterworks and sewerage systems
2 provide critical utility services to West Virginians. Proper oversight by governing bodies and board
3 member training are necessary to ensure financial accountability, regulatory compliance, and
4 operational efficiency.

5 (b) Any municipal governing body that is operating or that has oversight of a combined
6 waterworks and sewerage system shall require the combined municipal waterworks and
7 sewerage system to provide quarterly operational and financial reports to the governing body of
8 the municipality.

9 (c) Continuing education. — Any municipal governing body that is operating or has
10 oversight of a combined waterworks and sewerage system shall require all combined municipal
11 waterworks and sewerage systems board members and senior management to complete at least
12 six hours of continuing education annually, focusing on financial management, regulatory
13 compliance, and operational best practices.

CHAPTER 16. PUBLIC HEALTH.

ARTICLE 13. SEWAGE WORKS AND STORMWATER WORKS.

§16-13-18b. Municipality to require reporting and training.

1 (a) The Legislature finds that municipal sanitary boards provide critical wastewater utility
2 services and may also provide stormwater service to West Virginians. Proper oversight by
3 governing bodies and board member training are necessary to ensure financial accountability,
4 regulatory compliance, and operational efficiency.

5 (b) Any municipal governing body that is operating or that has oversight of a sewage or
6 stormwater system supervised and controlled by a municipal sanitary board shall require the

7 sanitary board to provide quarterly operational and financial reports to the governing body of the
8 municipality.

9 (c) Continuing education. — A municipal governing body shall require all municipal
10 sanitary board members and senior management to complete at least six hours of continuing
11 education annually, focusing on financial management, regulatory compliance, and operational
12 best practices.

ARTICLE 13A. PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICTS.

§16-13A-1d. County commission to require reporting and training.

1 (a) The Legislature finds that public service districts provide critical utility services to West
2 Virginians, including water, sewer, and gas. Proper oversight by governing bodies and board
3 member training are necessary to ensure financial accountability, regulatory compliance, and
4 operational efficiency.

5 (b) Any county commission that has created or established public service districts whose
6 principal offices are within the county shall require every such public service district utility to
7 provide quarterly operational and financial reports to the county commission.

8 (c) Continuing education. — Every county commission shall require all board members
9 and senior managers of any public service district whose principal offices are within the county to
10 complete at least six hours of continuing education annually, focusing on financial management,
11 regulatory compliance, and operational best practices.