

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2025 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 892

By Senator Woodrum

[Introduced March 24, 2025; referred
to the Committee on Government Organization; and
then to the Committee on Finance]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §11-1C-3 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
2 to property valuation; clarifying requirements before an assessor can be nominated; and
3 providing preference when certain requirements are met.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 1C. FAIR AND EQUITABLE PROPERTY VALUATION.

§11-1C-3. Property valuation training and procedures commission generally; appointment; term of office; meetings; compensation.

1 (a) There is hereby created, under the Department of Tax and Revenue, a property
2 valuation training and procedures commission which consists of the State Tax Commissioner, or a
3 designee, who shall serve as chairperson of the commission, three county assessors, five citizens
4 of the state, one of which shall be a certified appraiser, and two county commissioners. The
5 assessors, five citizen members and two county commissioners shall be appointed by the
6 Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. For each assessor to be appointed, the West
7 Virginia assessors association shall nominate three assessors, the assessors nominated shall be
8 in compliance with the monitoring requirements approved by the Property Valuation Training and
9 Procedures Commission, and the Governor and the assessors association shall give preference
10 to assessors who are designated, licensed, or hold certification through a licensing body or
11 professional organization recognized by the Appraisal Foundation, no more than two of whom
12 shall belong to the same political party, and shall submit such list of nominees to the Governor. For
13 each of the two county commissioners to be appointed, the county commissioner's association of
14 West Virginia shall nominate three commissioners, no more than two of whom shall belong to the
15 same political party, and shall submit such list of nominees to the Governor. Except for the Tax
16 Commissioner, there may not be more than one member from any one county. No more than
17 seven members of the commission shall belong to the same political party: *Provided*, That any
18 member of the commission who is a direct party to any dispute before the board shall excuse
19 himself or herself from any consideration or vote regarding the dispute. By November 1, 1990, the

20 Governor shall appoint the fifth citizen member, who shall serve a two-year term.

21 (b) All members, except the Tax Commissioner, shall serve for four-year terms: *Provided*,
22 That of the members initially appointed, two assessors, one county commission member and two
23 citizens shall serve two-year terms, and one assessor, one county commissioner member and
24 three citizen members shall serve four-year terms. Any assessor member and county
25 commissioner member ceases to be a member immediately upon leaving the office of assessor or
26 county commissioner. Members shall remain members of the commission until their successors
27 have been appointed. In case of a vacancy occurring prior to the end of the term of a member, a
28 replacement shall be appointed within 30 days in the same manner as the member was appointed
29 and shall serve until the end of the term of the member so replaced.

30 (c) The Tax Commissioner shall call the first meeting of the commission within thirty days of
31 the appointment of the assessor, county commissioner and citizen members. Subsequently,
32 meetings shall be at the call of the chairperson or at the written request of any four members,
33 except that the commission shall meet at least twice annually. Assessor members, county
34 commissioner members and the Tax Commissioner shall serve without compensation, and citizen
35 members shall receive \$50 per day for each day of actual service rendered. All members shall be
36 reimbursed for all reasonable and necessary expenses actually incurred in the performance of
37 their duties as members of the commission.

38 (d) The commission shall be funded by an appropriation by the Legislature through a
39 separate line item appropriated to the State Tax Commissioner.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to clarify requirements before an assessor can be nominated and provide preference when certain requirements are met.

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