

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2026 REGULAR SESSION

ENGROSSED

Committee Substitute

for

House Bill 4393

By Delegates Burkhammer, Heckert, and Pinson

[Originating in the Committee on Health and Human

Resources; Reported on January 22, 2026]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section,
2 designated §49-2-802b, relating to statewide prevention plan; setting forth plan
3 requirements; establishing deadlines; and requiring a report.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 2. STATE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR CHILDREN.

§49-2-802b. Requiring the development and implementation of statewide prevention plan.

1 (a) On or before January 1, 2027, the Department of Human Services (DoHS) shall
2 develop a statewide prevention plan, to provide prevention services to children under the age of 18
3 and their families which include kinship and foster parents, that is required to meet following
4 criteria:

5 (1) Services and programs shall be trauma-informed and shall meet evidence-based
6 criteria;

7 (2) Services shall be offered to who are at risk, including but not limited to the following:
8 children who have a child protective services or youth services safety plan, children with an open
9 child welfare or youth service case, or children otherwise identified as having a family with an
10 economic, concrete, or other preventative services need without an open child protective services
11 or youth services case or safety plan;

12 (3) Services shall be provided to pregnant and parenting youth;

13 (4) Services shall be provided to youth aging out of the foster care system up to their 21st
14 birthday;

15 (5) Services shall be provided to youth post-adoption; and

16 (6) Services shall be provided to youth transitioning from one level of care in the care
17 continuum to the next level of care;

18 (b) DoHS shall ensure the prevention network of providers is reasonably adequate for
19 convenient access to services within a reasonable distance from a child and families' home
20 residence and shall not be comprised solely of telehealth providers but shall have a mix of

21 telehealth providers and physical locations in the service area for the child and family to access
22 services;

23 (c) DoHS shall provide linkage to prevention services directly to youth and their families
24 that need the services;

25 (d) DoHS shall track encounter level information and outcomes for such prevention
26 services;

27 (e) DoHS shall report beginning on December 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, to the
28 Legislative Oversight Commission on Health and Human Resources Accountability on the
29 outcomes of the prevention services;

30 (1) The report shall include at a minimum, the total number of families served by prevention
31 services on a county basis, the total state costs for prevention services by program, the total
32 federal costs for prevention services by program, and the outcomes for such programs on a
33 regional basis or county basis.

34 (2) DoHS shall report outcomes on a de-identified basis and shall assign a synthetic
35 identifier to a provider to ensure that only system level reporting of outcomes is maintained.

36 (f) Services developed pursuant to this plan and other existing prevention plans shall
37 maximize the receipt of available federal dollars to support prevention services under the Family
38 First Prevention Services Act.