

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2026 REGULAR SESSION**

**Introduced**

### **House Bill 4497**

By Delegates Amos and Heckert

[Introduced; referred

to the Committee on]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section,  
2 designated §18-2-47, relating to requiring tenth grade students to pass a college  
3 preparedness exam to qualify for publicly available financial aid for public colleges and  
4 universities in this state.

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

## **ARTICLE 5. COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION.**

### **§18-2-47. College preparedness exam as condition of financial aid.**

1 (a) The State Board of Education shall develop and implement a college preparedness  
2 exam to be administered to all students at the tenth-grade level.

3 (b) The board shall establish parameters for a "pass" or "fail" grade for this college  
4 preparedness exam.

5 (c) Any student who receives a failing grade for this exam may be permitted to retake the  
6 exam after a reasonable time has passed, as determined by the board.

7 (d) A successful passing grade for this exam shall be a prerequisite for receiving any  
8 publicly available financial aid for a student who attends a publicly funded college or university in  
9 this state.

10 (e) The board may implement rules to carry out the provisions of this section.

11 (f) This section shall become effective for the 2026/2027 school year.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require tenth grade students to pass a college preparedness exam to qualify for public financial aid for colleges and universities.

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