

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2026 REGULAR SESSION

ENGROSSED

Committee Substitute

for

House Bill 5063

By Delegates D. Cannon and McGeehan

[Originating in the Committee on Government

Administration; Reported on February 25, 2026]

20 revenues to salaries and personnel shall be considered to have satisfied the budget allocation
21 requirement;

22 (4) The convention and visitor's bureau has a full-time executive director that maintains the
23 minimum number of continuing education hours recommended annually by industry standards;

24 (5) The convention and visitor's bureau has a physical office and/or visitor center that is
25 accessible at least 40 hours per week and has a dedicated phone line;

26 (6) The convention and visitor's bureau maintains a website and appropriate marketing
27 materials;

28 (7) The convention and visitor's bureau has received accreditation from an accrediting
29 body; and

30 (8) The convention and visitor's bureau submits an annual report to all of its funding
31 entities, which shall include, but not be limited to, the information provided for in this subsection;
32 and .

33 Nothing in this section may be construed as to interfere with the ability of a county or
34 municipality to enter into any agreements or partnerships with convention and visitor's bureaus in
35 neighboring counties or municipalities for the purposes of distributing net tax proceeds pursuant to
36 §7-18-14 of this code, so long as all other requirements of this section are met.

37 (c) At least once every three years, any bureau that receives any appropriation of hotel
38 occupancy tax from one or more counties or municipalities shall cause an audit or financial review,
39 in a form as is appropriate to the particular bureau, to be made by an independent certified public
40 accountant of all its books, accounts, and records relating to all receipts and expenditures of any
41 hotel occupancy tax appropriations for the three prior fiscal years of the bureau. A copy of the
42 audit or financial review shall be filed with each county or municipality from which the bureau
43 received an appropriation of hotel occupancy tax, the State Auditor, the Joint Committee on
44 Government and Finance, and the West Virginia Association of Convention and Visitors Bureaus.
45 After July 1, 2024, a bureau that has not caused such an audit or financial review to be made is

46 ineligible to receive an appropriation of hotel occupancy tax proceeds pursuant to §7-18-14 of this
47 code.

48 (d) In order to encourage counties and municipalities to work within the existing framework
49 of convention and visitor's bureaus, there shall be a moratorium on the authorization of new
50 convention and visitor's bureaus until June 30, 2026. A county or municipality may not appropriate
51 any net proceeds of hotel occupancy taxes, pursuant to §7-18-14 of this code, to any convention
52 or visitor's bureau created on or after the amendments to this section enacted during the regular
53 session of the Legislature, 2021, and prior to the end of the moratorium imposed by this
54 subsection. On or after June 30, 2026, any new convention and visitor's bureau which meets all of
55 the requirements of subsection (b) of this section shall qualify for a distribution of net proceeds
56 pursuant to §7-18-14 of this code.

57 (e) No county commission of a county in which a convention and visitor's bureau is located
58 shall be prohibited from appointing one county commissioner as a voting member of the county
59 convention and visitor's bureau. If there is a multi-county convention and visitor's bureau, each
60 county commission associated with that facility shall be allowed, in its discretion, to have a voting-
61 member seat on the multi-county convention and visitor's bureau board: *Provided*, That the
62 absence of any county commissioner member from any timely noticed and scheduled business
63 meeting of the county convention and visitor's bureau shall not be considered for suggesting the
64 absence of a quorum for the conducting of the business to be considered on the county convention
65 and visitor's bureau's meeting agenda.

66 ~~(e)~~ (f) Nothing in this section may prohibit either the State Auditor or the Legislative Auditor
67 from conducting regular reviews or audits of the operations or finances of a convention and
68 visitor's bureau to ensure compliance with this code.