

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2026 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 5136

By Delegate Young

[Introduced February 03, 2026; referred to the

Committee on Government Organization]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section,
2 designated §17A-6-1c, relating to authorizing certain motor vehicle manufacturers to
3 operate as new car dealers.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 6. LICENSING OF DEALERS AND WRECKERS OR DISMANTLERS;

SPECIAL PLATES; TEMPORARY PLATES OR MARKERS.

§17A-6-1c. Authorizing manufacturer direct sales of motor vehicles.

1 Notwithstanding any other code provision to the contrary, a manufacturer may be licensed
2 and operate as a new motor vehicle dealer in this state if the manufacturer:
3 (1) Has been manufacturing zero emissions motor vehicles since at least 2008;
4 (2) Manufactures or assembles zero emissions motor vehicles exclusively and has never
5 sold its line make of motor vehicles in this state through a franchised new motor vehicle dealer;
6 and
7 (3) Has not acquired a controlling interest in a franchisor or a subsidiary or other entity
8 controlled by a franchisor, or sold or transferred a controlling interest in such manufacturer to a
9 franchisor or subsidiary or other entity controlled by such franchisor.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to authorize certain zero emission motor vehicle manufacturers to operate as new car dealers in West Virginia.

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