

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

**2026 REGULAR SESSION**

**Committee Substitute**

**for**

**Senate Bill 1036**

BY SENATORS HELTON AND GARCIA

[Reported March 2, 2026, from the Committee on  
Finance]



1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article,  
2 designated §49-13-1, relating to creating the Sustainable Child-Serving Workforce and  
3 Foster Care Modernization Act; and providing for foster care rate modernization and  
4 workforce stabilization.

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

**ARTICLE 13. SUSTAINABLE CHILD-SERVING WORKFORCE AND FOSTER CARE  
MODERNIZATION ACT.**

**§49-13-1. Foster care rate modernization and workforce stabilization.**

1 (a) The Department of Human Services, Bureau for Social Services, shall rebase basic,  
2 special, and therapeutic foster care rates using current cost data for the fiscal year beginning July  
3 1, 2026.

4 (b) Therapeutic foster care and child-placing agency administrative rates shall be adjusted  
5 to reflect current costs and include incentive payments for retention and placement stability.