

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2026 REGULAR SESSION

Committee Substitute

for

Senate Bill 1077

BY SENATORS SMITH (MR. PRESIDENT), TAYLOR, AND

HAMILTON

[Reported February 26, 2026, from the Committee on

Education]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section,
2 designated §18-5-55, relating to requiring vocational education agriculture programs to be
3 offered to all students; making findings; allowing termination of a vocational education
4 agriculture program only if enrollment is the lowest enrollment of all vocational education
5 programs; requiring if a county school district terminates its vocational education
6 agriculture program that the district submit a report to the Legislative Oversight
7 Commission on Education Accountability explaining the reasoning for terminating its
8 program.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 5. COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION.

§18-5-55. Protection of vocational education agriculture programs.

1 (a) The Legislature finds that agriculture offers many benefits to the state and its individual
2 citizens such as enhanced self-sufficiency, additional food security, contributions to the economy,
3 and the enjoyment and satisfaction that can be experienced from various forms of agriculture.

4 (b) Vocational education agriculture programs shall be offered to all students, and these
5 programs may only be terminated if the enrollment is the lowest enrollment of all vocational
6 education programs. If a county school district terminates its program, the county school district
7 shall submit a report to the Legislative Oversight Commission on Education Accountability
8 explaining the reasoning for terminating its program.