

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2026 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 137

By Senator Deeds

[Introduced January 14, 2026; referred

to the Committee on the Judiciary]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §61-2-3 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to
2 criminal penalties for murder of the second degree; and parole eligibility for the crime of
3 murder in the second degree.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 2. CRIMES AGAINST THE PERSON

§61-2-3. Penalty for murder of second degree.

1 Murder of the second degree shall be punished by a definite term of imprisonment in the
2 penitentiary which is not less than ten fifteen nor more than forty sixty years. A person imprisoned
3 pursuant to the provisions of this section is not eligible for parole prior to having served a minimum
4 of ten fifteen years of his or her sentence or the minimum period required by the provisions of §62-
5 12-13, whichever is greater.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to modify the sentence and parole eligibility for murder in the second degree.

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