

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.