

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2026 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 140

By Senator Deeds

[Introduced January 14, 2026; referred
to the Committee on the Judiciary]

- 1 A BILL to amend and reenact §61-2-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to
2 increasing the penalty for voluntary manslaughter.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 2. CRIMES AGAINST THE PERSON.

§61-2-4. Voluntary manslaughter; penalty.

- 1 Voluntary manslaughter shall be punished by a definite term of imprisonment in the
2 penitentiary which is not less than ~~three~~ five nor more than ~~fifteen~~ 25 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 ~~three~~ five 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 increase the penalty for voluntary manslaughter.

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