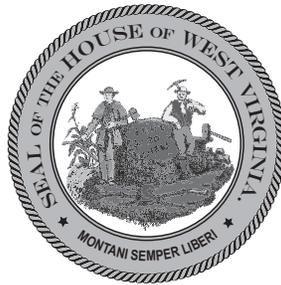


West Virginia Legislature

JOURNAL
of the
HOUSE of DELEGATES

Eighty-Seventh Legislature
Second Regular Session

Held at Charleston
Published by the Clerk of the House



January 28, 2026

FIFTEENTH DAY

Wednesday, January 28, 2026

FIFTEENTH DAY

[DELEGATE HANSHAW, MR. SPEAKER, IN THE CHAIR]

The House of Delegates was called to order by the Honorable Roger Hanshaw, Speaker.

Prayer was offered and the House was led in recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Clerk proceeded to read the Journal of Tuesday, January 27, 2026, being the first order of business, when the further reading thereof was dispensed with and the same approved.

Committee Reports

Delegate Akers, Chair of the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on the Judiciary has had under consideration:

H. B. 4036, Relating to stricter enforcement for parking in a handicapped designated spot,

And reports the same back with the recommendation that it do pass.

Delegate Akers, Chair of the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on the Judiciary has had under consideration:

H. B. 4138, Relating to persons convicted of a crime,

And reports back a committee substitute therefor, as follows:

Com. Sub. for H. B. 4138 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §15-12-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to providing that any person convicted of a crime pursuant to §61-8B-1 *et seq.* shall be required to register pursuant to this article, including the current provisions relating to the crimes of sexual extortion and aggravated sexual extortion contained within §61-8B-6 of this code, shall be required to be registered pursuant to this article, and also relating to clarifying that a person convicted of the former §61-8B-6, relating to the offense of sexual assault of a spouse, which was repealed by an act of the Legislature during the 2000 legislative session, shall be required to continue to be registered pursuant to this article; also relating to clarifying that a person convicted of a crime pursuant to §61-8-28a of this code, relating to nonconsensual disclosure of private intimate images, shall be required to be registered pursuant to this article; and also related to clarifying that a person convicted of any crime contained within §61-8-32 of this code, shall be required to be registered pursuant to this article,"

H. B. 4366, Relating to military interpersonal violence,

And reports back a committee substitute therefor, as follows:

Com. Sub. for H. B. 4366 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §48-27-209, §48-27-403, §48-28-4, §53-8-1 and §53-8-5 of the Code of West Virginia, as amended, relating to military interpersonal violence; providing definitions; clarifying the use of a military protective order in the court system; and clarifying when a law enforcement officer may report a potential violation of a military order,"

And,

H. B. 4477, To give the Secretary of State authority to refer allegations of violations of election laws to West Virginia Prosecuting Attorneys Institute.,

And reports back a committee substitute therefor, as follows:

Com. Sub. for H. B. 4477 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §3-1A-6 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; and to amend and reenact §7-4-6 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended all relating to requiring the Secretary of State to provide a county prosecuting attorney a written report of refer potential violations of election laws, frauds, or irregularities in any registration or election; also relating to requiring the prosecuting attorney to refer the matters contained within the Secretary of State's report to the West Virginia Prosecuting Attorneys Institute for appointment of a special prosecuting attorney; also relating to requiring the West Virginia Prosecuting Attorneys Institute to appoint a special prosecutor to review and investigate the allegations of potential election laws contained within the Secretary of State's written report; also relating to periodic written updates that must be provided at certain designated times to the Secretary of State by the appointed special prosecuting attorney; also relating to requiring that each prosecuting attorney in this state is subject to the appointment as a special prosecutor in these instances; also related to requiring that the special prosecuting attorney shall serve without further compensation other than reimbursement for their legitimate expenses associated with travel, mileage, room and board from the county to which they are appointed as a special prosecutor; also relating to requiring the county commission of the county to which they are appointed as a special prosecutor shall be responsible for all allowable expenses; and also relating to not requiring an appointed special prosecutor to take an additional oath when appointed as a special prosecuting attorney,"

With the recommendation that the committee substitutes each do pass.

Delegate Worrell, Chair of the Committee on Health and Human Resources, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on Health and Human Resources has had under consideration:

H. B. 4640, Relating to drugs and adding a provision relating to the scheduling of crystalline polymorph psilocybin approved by the Food and Drug Administration,

And reports back a committee substitute therefor, as follows:

Com. Sub. for H. B. 4640 - "A Bill amend and reenact §60A-2-201 and §60A-2-204 of the code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to schedule of drugs,"

With the recommendation that the committee substitute do pass.

Delegate Ellington, Chair of the Committee on Education, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on Education has had under consideration:

H. B. 4656, Relating to chronic absenteeism,

And reports the same back with the recommendation that it do pass, but that it first be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

In accordance with the former direction of the Speaker, the bill (H. B. 4656) was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Delegate Ellington, Chair of the Committee on Education submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on Education has had under consideration:

H. B. 4014, Workforce Readiness and Opportunity Act,

And reports back a committee substitute therefor, as follows:

Com. Sub. for H. B. 4014 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §11-13W-1 and §30-1B-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; and to amend the code by adding eight new sections, designated §11-21-12o, §11-24-6d, §18B-3D-8, §21-18-1, §21-18-2, §21-18-3, §21-18-4, and §21-18-5; relating to expanding opportunities and participation in the state's workforce through the Workforce Readiness and Opportunity Act; creating the West Virginia Micro-Credential Program under the authority of the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission; expanding the availability for the tax credit for apprenticeship training programs; providing additional modification from personal and corporate net income tax for contributions and recipients to voluntary portable benefits plans; allowing hiring parties to contribute to the portable benefits for independent contractors without creating an employer-employee relationship; removing the requirement that military trained applicants must pass a proficiency examination before receiving a professional licensure; and clarifying who qualifies for a license as a military trained applicant,"

With the recommendation that the committee substitute do pass, but that it first be referred to the Committee on Finance.

In accordance with the former direction of the Speaker, the bill (Com. Sub. for H. B. 4014) was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Messages from the Executive and Other Communications



FILED

2026 JAN 27 P 4:57

Patrick Morrissey
Office of the Governor

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
SECRETARY OF STATE

January 27, 2026

The Honorable Kris Warner
Secretary of State
State Capitol
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Dear Secretary Warner:

Pursuant to W. Va. Code § 3-10-5, I have this day appointed Guy E. Ward, White Hall, Marion County, West Virginia, as a Delegate representing the Seventy-Fourth Delegate District, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of the Honorable Michael DeVault from this day through the remainder of the unexpired term of said office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick Morrissey".

Patrick Morrissey
Governor

cc: President of the Senate
Speaker of the House of Delegates
Clerk of the Senate
Clerk of the House of Delegates
Ethics Commission

Bills Introduced

On motions for leave, bills were introduced and severally referred as follows:

At the request of Delegate McGeehan, and by unanimous consent, further reading of the bills was dispensed with and each bill was considered as formally introduced and referred to the appropriate committees as indicated on the Chamber Automation System.

By Delegates Worrell and Burkhammer:

H. B. 4852 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §16-7-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to regulation to foods"; to the Committee on Health and Human Resources.

By Delegates Worrell and Burkhammer:

H. B. 4853 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding two new sections designated §16B-3-22 and §16B-3-23, relating to hospitals; and establishing protocols for providing trauma informed care to patients"; to the Committee on Health and Human Resources.

By Delegate Dillon:

H. B. 4854 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §5B-2-21a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to data centers; and prohibiting the state or any political subdivision from providing subsidization"; to the Committee on Government Organization then Finance.

By Delegate Dillon:

H. B. 4855 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §18-36-1, §18-36-2, §18-36-3, §18-36-4, §18-36-5, §18-36-6, §18-36-7, and §18-36-8, relating to the elimination of the West Virginia Department of Education and providing direct funding for education; providing for the abolition of the department; reducing the role of the State Superintendent; creating a fund within the State Treasurer; modifying the county apportionment; providing for teacher classroom benefits; and providing for severability and an effective date"; to the Committee on Education then Finance.

By Delegates Dillon, Adkins, Miller, Pritt, Masters, Ferrell, Foggin, Dittman and Ridenour:

H. B. 4856 - "A Bill to repeal §6-9-2b of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; and to amend and reenact §12-3-10d, all relating to requiring all P-Card rebates to be transferred to the PEIA Rainy Day Fund in order to stabilize that fund"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegate Funkhouser:

H. B. 4857 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §61-5-8 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to transporting telecommunication devices into a state correctional facility a felony"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegate Funkhouser:

H. B. 4858 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §11-24-23a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, and to amend the code by adding a new article, designated §11-13NN-1, §11-13NN-2, §11-13NN-3, §11-13NN-4, §11-13NN-5, §11-13NN-6, §11-13NN-7, §11-13NN-8, §11-13NN-9, §11-13NN-10, §11-13NN-11, §11-13NN-12, §11-13NN-13, and §11-13NN-14; and to amend the code by adding two new sections, designated §11-21-8i and §11-24-23h; relating to the West Virginia historic rehabilitated buildings tax credits; providing a sunset on the current rehabilitation credits; providing a centralized article providing for historic rehabilitation credits; providing

legislative findings; defining terms; setting forth procedures to claim the credit; providing for recapture of the credit; providing effective dates; and relating to credit for qualified rehabilitated buildings investment"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegate Funkhouser:

H. B. 4859 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §18-2B-2a and §18-9D-19 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, all relating to allowing a county board of education participating in the operation of a multicounty vocational center to withdraw; allowing any county board participating in a multicounty vocational center to determine that a career technical education program be part of the local high school; and modifying provisions pertaining to construction of a comprehensive vocational facility by a county board served by a multicounty vocational technical facility"; to the Committee on Education.

By Delegate Dillon:

H. B. 4860 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §18-9A-10a, relating to the creation of the Direct Foundation Funding Act"; to the Committee on Education then Finance.

By Delegates Dillon, Dean, Bridges and Vance:

H. B. 4861 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §18-9A-30, relating to public school finance; authorizing county boards to designate rural anchor schools; providing criteria, funding treatment, and accountability"; to the Committee on Education then Finance.

By Delegate Linville:

H. B. 4862 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §16-13A-18a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, relating to the responsibility of a board of a public service district to cooperate with a county commission in the sale of assets of a public service district that is being dissolved, sold or merged with another public service district"; to the Committee on Energy and Public Works.

By Delegates Butler, Ridenour, Pinson, Mazzocchi, Chiarelli, Heckert, Sheedy and Dean:

H. B. 4863 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §15-17-1, §15-17-2, §15-17-3, §15-17-4, §15-17-5, §15-17-6, §15-17-7, and §15-17-8, relating to enacting the Refugee and Immigrant Absorptive Capacity Act; providing a short title; defining terms; setting forth the duties of the state office within the Department of Human Services that deals with refugees and/or immigrants; permitting moratorium applications and cessations; requiring a fiscal impact assessment; requiring reports; requiring the Department of Human Services to administer the West Virginia Refugee Resettlement Program Plan; and providing a severability provision"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Butler, Mazzocchi, Chiarelli, Heckert, Dean and Ridenour:

H. B. 4864 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §3-1-2, §3-1-39, §3-1A-6, and §3-4A-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; to amend said code by adding four new sections, designated §3-1-39a; §3-4A-35, §3-4A-36, and §3-4A-37, relating to providing for election reform; defining 'Public Election Related Information and Data;' allowing for the public disclosure of this data through the Freedom of Information Act ('FOIA'); providing for the maintenance of Public Election Related Information and Data including cast vote records, also known as 'CVRs;' and providing for restrictions of certain electronic software voting systems and contingent hand counting procedures; providing for the random physical and internal operating code inspection of electronic

voting systems; and making sections of this bill effective from passage"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Funkhouser, Hornby, J. Cannon, Hillenbrand, Butler, Ridenour, Heckert, Clark, Rohrbach, Akers and Maynor:

H. B. 4865 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §3-1-28 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, providing for a program allowing election official trainees to be appointed as election officials"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Ridenour, Butler, Martin, Anders, Dillon, Hillenbrand, Kump, Coop-Gonzalez, White, Kimble and T. Howell:

H. B. 4866 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §55-22-1, §55-22-2, §55-22-3, §55-22-4, §55-22-5, §55-22-6, §55-22-7, §55-22-8, and §55-22-9, relating to creating the West Virginia Public Participation Protection Act; specifying applicability to certain speech; causes of action related to freedom of speech activities; creating exceptions; authorizing motions to dismiss under certain circumstances; establishing procedures for civil actions; authorizing attorney's fees and certain sanctions; and providing for severability"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegate Willis:

H. B. 4867 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §37C-1-1, §37C-1-2, and §37C-1-3 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; and to amend said code by adding a new article designated §37C-2-1, §37C-2-2, §37C-2-3, and §37C-2-4, all relating to production of oil and natural gas, reporting and payments from all oil and gas wells; royalty payments; providing definitions; providing the method of calculations and payment of royalties; and requiring auditing of information relating to leased premises, transparency and monitoring of leased minerals"; to the Committee on Energy and Public Works then the Judiciary.

By Delegates Hite, G. Howell and Green:

H. B. 4868 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §46A-9-101, §46A-9-102, and §46A-9-103, relating to the enactment of the West Virginia Consumer Privacy Act of 2026; defining terms and applicability; establishing fines and penalties for violations"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Green, Hanshaw (Mr. Speaker), Hott, Jeffries, Kyle, Rohrbach, Hall, Worrell, Hite, Ellington and Statler:

H. B. 4869 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §33-15F-1, relating to Medicare supplement policies; providing definitions; creating access to Medigap regardless of health; establishing clearly bounded guaranteed-issue rights for Medicare Supplement (Medigap) policies; providing reporting requirements; and authorizing rulemaking"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegates G. Howell, Hornbuckle, Hanshaw (Mr. Speaker), Akers, Willis, Dittman, Ellington, McCormick, Rohrbach, Browning and J. Cannon:

H. B. 4870 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §3-8-5h, relating to elections; providing legislative findings; and extending the deadlines for filing campaign finance reports"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates G. Howell, Pritt, Foggin, Dean, Stephens, Toney, Statler, Ellington, Campbell, Garcia and Dittman:

H. B. 4871 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article designated §18-5H-1, §18-5H-2, §18-5H-3, §18-5H-4, §18-5H-5, and §18-5H-6, relating to meal options in schools; providing legislative findings; authorizing rulemaking authority; and establishing a process to provide students a vegetarian meal option"; to the Committee on Education.

By Delegate Pritt:

H. B. 4872 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §7-14-8 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to amending guidelines for reinstating sheriff's deputies to their former departments after resignation; clarifying that reinstatement is at the discretion of the sheriff; and clarifying that a former deputy sheriff may seek reinstatement within five years of resignation"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegate Pritt:

H. B. 4873 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §55-7B-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to clarifying when a minor may bring a medical malpractice cause of action"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Pritt, Martin and Clay:

H. B. 4874 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §11-3-1 and §11-5-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; and to amend said code by adding a new article, designated §17A-3B-1, all relating to streamlining the process of personal property assessment by requiring the Division of Motor Vehicles to provide the Tax Assessor with records of all personal property that the Division of Motor Vehicles maintains"; to the Committee on Government Organization then Finance.

By Delegates Pritt, Brooks, Clay, Miller, Toney and B. Smith:

H. B. 4875 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §18A-4-8a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to providing a 25% pay increase for state school service personnel across all salary scales"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegates Hite, G. Howell and Worrell:

H. B. 4876 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §21-6-5, §21-6-8, and §21-6-10 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, and to repeal §21-6-3, relating to eliminating requirement that 14 or 15 year old obtain a work permit; establishing that employer seeking to hire a child 14 or older receive an age certificate from the commission prior to employing the child; providing commissioner the authority to issue age certificates for children ages 14 and over; and providing penalties for a person that issues an age certificate in violation of the article"; to the Committee on Government Organization then the Judiciary.

By Delegate Riley:

H. B. 4877 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §33-6-29 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to modifying the priority of insurance coverage for drivers of certain vehicles to make consistent with federal law"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegates Mazzocchi, Butler, Kimble, Crouse, T. Howell, Ridenour, Dillon, Funkhouser, Horst and Phillips:

H. B. 4878 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §55-7-22 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to strengthening the West Virginia castle doctrine; providing for the use of force, including deadly force, in defense of self, real, and personal property in a residence, or on

curtilage whereupon the home or other place of residence is located; providing a complete defense from civil and/or criminal prosecution against persons lawfully using force in defensive actions; and providing for the receipt of court costs, fees, and expenses for persons acting to protect self, real, and personal property, another person or in certain civil actions, providing what constitutes justified use of deadly force in defense of another"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Ridenour, Adkins, Pritt, Street, Clay, Hillenbrand, Sheedy, Butler, McGeehan and Hite:

H. B. 4879 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §15-4-1, §15-4-2, §15-4-3, §15-4-4, §15-4-5, §15-4-6, §15-4-7, §15-4-8, §15-4-9, §15-4-10, §15-4-11, §15-4-12, and §15-4-13 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; and to amend the code by adding three new sections, designated §15-4-14, §15-4-15, and §15-4-16, relating to updating and revising all provisions of this code relating to the West Virginia State Guard"; to the Committee on the Judiciary then Finance.

By Delegates Ridenour, Adkins, McGeehan, Hillenbrand, Street, Pritt, Watt, Clay, Sheedy, Butler and Hite:

H. B. 4880 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §15-1H-7, relating to the creation of 'The Deployed Servicemembers Protection Act'; providing legislative findings; providing definitions; and describing protections for servicemembers and penalties for violating them"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Ferrell, Sheedy, Pritt, Mallow, Phillips and Hall:

H. B. 4881 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §17-24A-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to obtaining titles to abandoned or junked motor vehicles abandoned on the property or place of business of an automobile dealer, licensed automobile auction, motor vehicle repair facility or towing company; and removing the requirement that the loan value of the motor vehicle be less than \$9,500 to allow the automobile dealer, licensed automobile auction, motor vehicle repair facility or towing company to obtain a certificate of title and registration for the abandoned motor vehicle or junked vehicle"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Dillon and Kump:

H. B. 4882 - "A Bill to repeal §17C-16-1, §17C-16-2, §17C-16-3, §17C-16-4, §17C-16-5, §17C-16-6, §17C-16-7, §17C-16-8, and §17C-16-9 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to the elimination of mandatory state inspections of motor vehicles"; to the Committee on Energy and Public Works then Finance.

By Delegates Bridges, Roop, Dean, Clark, Young, Foggin, Vance, Pritt and Willis:

H. B. 4883 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §11-21-12o, relating to exempting personal income tax on overtime"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegates Bridges, Vance, Foggin, Ward, Chiarelli and Pritt:

H. B. 4884 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §48-13-201, §48-13-202, §48-13-301, §48-13-302, §48-13-303, §48-13-403, §48-13-404, §48-13-502, §48-13-601, §48-13-602, §48-13-603, and §48-13-801, relating to child support; and modifying calculation to use net pay instead of adjusted gross income"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Bridges, Roop, Vance and Pritt:

H. B. 4885 - "A Bill to repeal §11-14C-5 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to motor fuel excise tax; and removing taxes on gasoline"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegates Bridges, Roop and Willis:

H. B. 4886 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §62-11B-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to clarifying where a person incarcerated on home confinement may travel"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Bridges, Roop, Dean, Young, Foggin, Vance, Eldridge and Willis:

H. B. 4887 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §5-10-20 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to retirement; and authorizing sheriffs who are members of the public retirement system to retire upon attaining the age of 62 with eight or more years of service"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegates Bridges, Vance, Foggin, Chiarelli, Masters and Willis:

H. B. 4888 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §48-13-201 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to child support; and removing child support when both parents get equal custody and both parents work"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Bridges, Roop, Dean, Clark, Young, Foggin, Adkins, Vance and Pritt:

H. B. 4889 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §5-10-22n of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; and to amend and reenact §18-7A-26y of the code, relating to the Public Employees Retirement System and the State Teachers Retirement System; and providing a graduated increase in retirement benefits over a three-year period"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegates Bridges, Roop, Dean, Clark, Young, Foggin, Vance, Eldridge, Pritt and Willis:

H. B. 4890 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §5-5-4b of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to providing a pay raise to administrative employees, staff, and non-uniformed personnel of the Division of Corrections, Division of Juvenile Services, and the West Virginia Regional Jail and Correctional Facility Authority in order to retain current workers and attract new workers to this field"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegates Bridges, Roop, Dean, Vance and Pritt:

H. B. 4891 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §24-3-3b, relating to requiring all utility companies to absorb the costs of maintenance, upgrades, and repairs for the infrastructure used in delivering services and prohibiting the cost of said maintenance and upgrades being passed on to the consumer"; to the Committee on Energy and Public Works.

By Delegates Stephens, Pritt, Adkins, Ellington, Willis, Campbell and Toney:

H. B. 4892 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §18-2L-1, §18-2L-2, §18-2L-3, §18-2L-4, §18-2L-5, and §18-2L-6, relating to expanding the provisions of the Literacy Based Promotion Act in order to provide certain intervention and implementation strategies for literacy proficiency among students in grade four through grade eight; to define terminology; to require the State Board of Education to provide a system of support for school and district instructional leaders, teachers, literacy coaches, interventionists, tutors and other identified personnel of fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grade students to ensure that they have the knowledge and skills to support students with reading difficulties; to prescribe what the system of supports shall entail; to require the State Board of Education to develop and promulgate rules for the implementation of an evidence-based program of literacy intervention for students in grade four through grade eight; to require the State Board of Education to submit an annual report to the legislature by December 1 of each year of the

program implementation over the course of the previous year; and for related purposes."; to the Committee on Education.

By Delegate Stephens:

H. B. 4893 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §50-5-11 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to increasing the penalties for contempt of court in magistrate court"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegate Dillon:

H. B. 4894 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §24-2J-1, §24-2J-2, §24-2J-3, §24-2J-4, §24-2J-5, §24-2J-6, §24-2J-7, §24-2J-8, §24-2J-9, §24-2J-10, §24-2J-11, and §24-2J-12, relating to utilities; providing a short title; providing legislative findings and declarations; providing definitions; creating a moratorium on rate increase; establishing phases and standards to restore utility affordability and reliability to state residents"; to the Committee on Energy and Public Works then Finance.

By Delegates White, Pinson, Butler, Coop-Gonzalez, Dillon, Anders, Ward, T. Howell, Ridenour, Hite and Worrell:

H. B. 4895 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §11-21-16 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to personal income tax; and establishing an unborn child tax credit"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegate Pritt:

H. B. 4896 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §3-1-16, §3-5-13a, §3-10-3 and §24-1-3 the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to requiring Public Service Commission's commissioners be elected to positions; providing for election of commissioners beginning in 2026; requiring commissioners to be included on the ballot; establishing procedure for vacancy in office of commissioner; and establishing requirements for commissioners"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegate Masters:

H. B. 4897 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §16-13A-9c, relating to creating a tax credit for private property owners providing public-access recreation space; setting legislative findings; defining terms; limiting liability in certain circumstances; setting qualification for the tax credit; permitting inspections and termination of tax credit; and permitting reimbursement"; to the Committee on Energy and Public Works.

By Delegate Pritt:

H. B. 4898 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §62-12-9 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to requiring that the Division of Corrections provide each probationer with physical copies of their birth certificate and Social Security Administration card upon release from a facility"; to the Committee on the Judiciary then Finance.

By Delegate Pritt:

H. B. 4899 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §30-3-7 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to requiring persons or entities rendering medical services to patients who were under the age of 18 years at the time of the services to notify these patients after they reach 18 years of age to contact the providers of any adverse or negative effects experienced from the services"; to the Committee on Health and Human Resources then the Judiciary.

By Delegates Pritt, Hamilton, Young and Bell:

H. B. 4900 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §18-5-55, relating to providing free feminine hygiene products to female students in public schools"; to the Committee on Education then Finance.

By Delegates Pritt, Masters, Dean, Green, Canterbury, Adkins, Clay and Brooks:

H. B. 4901 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §23-4-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to establishing payment guidelines for pulmonary massive fibroids without current pulmonary impairment in order to care for those who face future impairment that would otherwise fall outside of the timeframe for filing a complaint"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Pritt, Brooks and Roop:

H. B. 4902 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §5-5-4c, relating to pay equity salary adjustments for employees of the Division of Corrections and Rehabilitation"; to the Committee on the Judiciary then Finance.

By Delegates Pritt, Brooks and Roop:

H. B. 4903 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §5-5-4b of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to providing a pay equity salary adjustment and increase to certain employees of the Division of Corrections and Rehabilitation; and specifying the funding for the pay equity salary adjustments"; to the Committee on the Judiciary then Finance.

Special Calendar**Unfinished Business**

The following resolutions, coming up in regular order, as unfinished business, were reported by the Clerk and adopted:

Com. Sub. for Com. Sub. for H. C. R. 3, House Infrastructure Naming Resolution.

Third Reading

Com. Sub. for H. B. 4028, Relating to sales tax on construction materials; on third reading, coming up in regular order, was read a third time.

The question being on the passage of the bill, the yeas and nays were taken (**Roll No. 21**), and there were--yeas 95, nays none, absent and not voting 4, with the absent and not voting being as follows:

Absent and Not Voting: Petitto, D. Smith, Vance and Ward.

So, a majority of the members present having voted in the affirmative, the Speaker declared the bill (Com. Sub. for H. B. 4028) passed.

Delegate McGeehan moved that the bill take effect July 1, 2026.

On this question, the yeas and nays were taken (**Roll No. 22**), and there were--yeas 95, nays none, absent and not voting 4, with the absent and not voting being as follows:

Absent and Not Voting: Petitto, D. Smith, Vance and Ward.

So, two thirds of the members elected to the House of Delegates having voted in the affirmative, the Speaker declared the bill (Com. Sub. for H. B. 4028) takes effect July 1, 2026.

Ordered, That the Clerk of the House communicate to the Senate the action of the House of Delegates and request concurrence therein.

Com. Sub. for H. B. 4169, Relating to mental health examination requirements.; on third reading, coming up in regular order, was read a third time.

The question being on the passage of the bill, the yeas and nays were taken (**Roll No. 23**), and there were--yeas 95, nays none, absent and not voting 4, with the absent and not voting being as follows:

Absent and Not Voting: Petitto, D. Smith, Vance and Ward.

So, a majority of the members present having voted in the affirmative, the Speaker declared the bill (Com. Sub. for H. B. 4169) passed.

Ordered, That the Clerk of the House communicate to the Senate the action of the House of Delegates and request concurrence therein.

Com. Sub. for H. B. 4215, Department of Health Rules Bundle; on third reading, coming up in regular order, was read a third time.

The question being on the passage of the bill, the yeas and nays were taken (**Roll No. 24**), and there were--yeas 88, nays 7, absent and not voting 4, with the nays and the absent and not voting being as follows:

Nays: Anders, Butler, Dillon, Kimble, Kump, McGeehan and Phillips.

Absent and Not Voting: Petitto, D. Smith, Vance and Ward.

So, a majority of the members present having voted in the affirmative, the Speaker declared the bill (Com. Sub. for H. B. 4215) passed.

Delegate McGeehan moved that the bill take effect from its passage.

On this question, the yeas and nays were taken (**Roll No. 25**), and there were--yeas 91, nays 4, absent and not voting 4, with the nays and the absent and not voting being as follows:

Nays: Anders, Dillon, Kimble and Kump.

Absent and Not Voting: Petitto, D. Smith, Vance and Ward.

So, two thirds of the members elected to the House of Delegates having voted in the affirmative, the Speaker declared the bill (Com. Sub. for H. B. 4215) takes effect from its passage.

Ordered, That the Clerk of the House communicate to the Senate the action of the House of Delegates and request concurrence therein.

Com. Sub. for H. B. 4364, Relating to concurrent juvenile jurisdiction on military installations; on third reading, coming up in regular order, was read a third time.

The question being on the passage of the bill, the yeas and nays were taken (**Roll No. 26**), and there were--yeas 95, nays none, absent and not voting 4, with the absent and not voting being as follows:

Absent and Not Voting: Petitto, D. Smith, Vance and Ward.

So, a majority of the members present having voted in the affirmative, the Speaker declared the bill (Com. Sub. for H. B. 4364) passed.

Ordered, That the Clerk of the House communicate to the Senate the action of the House of Delegates and request concurrence therein.

H. B. 4422, To permit students in eighth and ninth grade to attend summer school in order to raise their grades and establish academic eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities in the fall; on third reading, coming up in regular order, was read a third time.

The question being on the passage of the bill, the yeas and nays were taken (**Roll No. 27**), and there were--yeas 95, nays none, absent and not voting 4, with the absent and not voting being as follows:

Absent and Not Voting: Petitto, D. Smith, Vance and Ward.

So, a majority of the members present having voted in the affirmative, the Speaker declared the bill (H. B. 4422) passed.

On motion of Delegate Gearheart, the title of the bill was amended to read as follows:

A BILL to amend and reenact §18-5-39 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to permitting students in eighth and ninth grades to attend summer school in order to raise their grades and establish academic eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities in the fall.

Ordered, That the Clerk of the House communicate to the Senate the action of the House of Delegates and request concurrence therein.

Second Reading

The following bills on second reading, coming up in regular order, were each read a second time and ordered to engrossment and third reading:

Com. Sub. for H. B. 4393, Requiring the development and implementation of statewide prevention plan,

H. B. 4410, Relating to special stops required for on-track equipment,

H. B. 4437, To allow Gold Star parents to receive one free Gold Star vehicle registration for personal use.,

Com. Sub. for H. B. 4610, Safeguard the Right-To-Try Cutting-Edge Medicine Act,

And,

H. B. 4626, Relating to the establishment of a grant program to fund the United States Food and Drug Administration's drug development trials with ibogaine,

First Reading

The following bill on first reading, coming up in regular order, was read a first time and ordered to second reading:

Com. Sub. for H. B. 4415, Creating crime of attempting to smuggle contraband into federal correctional institutions within the state.

Leaves of Absence

At the request of Delegate McGeehan, and by unanimous consent, leaves of absence for the day were granted Delegates Petitto, D. Smith, Vance and Ward.

Miscellaneous Business

TRENTON C. BARNHART
(304) 340-3195

FINANCE

CHAIR - BANKING AND INSURANCE
APPROPRIATIONS

EDUCATION

HIGHER EDUCATION



BUILDING 1, ROOM 208E
1900 KANAWHA BLVD., EAST
CHARLESTON, WV 25305-0470
TRENTON.BARNHART@WVHOUSE.GOV

HOUSE OF DELEGATES
WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

January 28, 2026

Roger Hanshaw, Speaker
West Virginia House of Delegates
Room 228M, Building 1
State Capitol Complex
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Speaker Hanshaw:

Due to my appointment to the West Virginia Senate, I hereby resign from the West Virginia House of Delegates effective immediately. Thank you for the opportunity to serve!

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Trenton C. Barnhart".

Delegate Trenton C. Barnhart
WV House of Delegates-District 9

Received
1/28/26

Pursuant to House Rule 94b, forms were filed with the Clerk's Office to be added as a cosponsor of the following:

- H. B. 4009:** Delegate Drennan;
- H. B. 4137:** Delegate Flanigan;
- H. B. 4382:** Delegate Heckert;
- H. B. 4412:** Delegate Heckert;
- H. B. 4456:** Delegate Holstein;
- H. B. 4464:** Delegate Leavitt;
- H. B. 4546:** Delegates Flanigan and Hornby;
- H. B. 4594:** Delegate Riley;
- H. B. 4606:** Delegate Funkhouser;
- H. B. 4696:** Delegates Eldridge, Holstein, Riley, and Sheedy;
- H. B. 4784:** Delegate Hornby;
- H. B. 4834:** Delegates Bell, D. Cannon, Leavitt, and Pritt;
- H. B. 4864:** Delegate Kump;
- H. B. 4872:** Delegate Kump;
- H. B. 4882:** Delegate Kump;
- H. B. 4883:** Delegate Kump;
- H. B. 4898:** Delegate Kump;
- H. B. 4902:** Delegate Kump;

And,

- H. B. 4903:** Delegate Kump.

Pursuant to House Rule 94b, a form was filed with the Clerk's Office to be removed as a cosponsor of the following:

- H. B. 4009:** Delegate Barnhart;
- H. B. 4424:** Delegate Barnhart;
- H. B. 4445:** Delegate Barnhart;

H. B. 4478: Delegate Barnhart;

H. B. 4572: Delegate Barnhart;

H. B. 4573: Delegate Barnhart;

H. B. 4715: Delegate Sheedy;

H. B. 4729: Delegate Barnhart;

H. B. 4789: Delegate Barnhart;

H. B. 4790: Delegate Barnhart;

H. B. 4792: Delegate Barnhart;

H. B. 4833: Delegate Barnhart;

And,

H. B. 4784: Delegate Barnhart.

At 11:42 a.m., the House of Delegates adjourned until 11:00 a.m., Thursday, January 29, 2026.

**HOUSE OF DELEGATES
JEFFREY PACK, Clerk
Building 1, Room M-212
1900 Kanawha Blvd., East
Charleston, WV 25305-0470**

SPECIAL CALENDAR

Thursday, January 29, 2026

16th Day

11:00 A.M.

THIRD READING

- Com. Sub. for H. B. 4393 - Requiring the development and implementation of statewide prevention plan
- H. B. 4410 - Relating to special stops required for on-track equipment
- H. B. 4437 - To allow Gold Star parents to receive one free Gold Star vehicle registration for personal use.
- Com. Sub. for H. B. 4610 - Safeguard the Right-To-Try Cutting-Edge Medicine Act
- H. B. 4626 - Relating to the establishment of a grant program to fund the United States Food and Drug Administration's drug development trials with ibogaine

SECOND READING

- Com. Sub. for H. B. 4415 - Creating crime of attempting to smuggle contraband into federal correctional institutions within the state

FIRST READING

- H. B. 4036 - Relating to stricter enforcement for parking in a handicapped designated spot
- Com. Sub. for H. B. 4138 - Relating to persons convicted of a crime
- Com. Sub. for H. B. 4366 - Relating to military interpersonal violence
- Com. Sub. for H. B. 4477 - To give the Secretary of State authority to refer allegations of violations of election laws to West Virginia Prosecuting Attorneys Institute.
- Com. Sub. for H. B. 4640 - Relating to drugs and adding a provision relating to the scheduling of crystalline polymorph psilocybin approved by the Food and Drug Administration

HOUSE CALENDAR

Thursday, January 29, 2026

16th Day

11:00 A.M.

No Bills

WEST VIRGINIA HOUSE OF DELEGATES

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2026

HOUSE CONVENES AT 11:00 A.M.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

9:00 A.M. – FINANCE COMMITTEE ROOM 460M

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

9:00 A.M. – JUDICIARY COMMITTEE ROOM 410M

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COURTS

9:45 A.M. – JUDICIARY COMMITTEE ROOM 410M

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

10:00 A.M. – JUDICIARY COMMITTEE ROOM 410M

SUBCOMMITTEE ON LEGAL SERVICES

10:15 A.M. – JUDICIARY COMMITTEE ROOM 410M

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION

1:00 P.M. – EAST WING COMMITTEE ROOM 215E

SUBCOMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

2:00 P.M. – EAST WING COMMITTEE ROOM 215E

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES

3:30 P.M. – EAST WING COMMITTEE ROOM 215E

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND PUBLIC WORKS

3:00 P.M. – JUDICIARY COMMITTEE ROOM 410M

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL, INFRASTRUCTURE AND
TECHNOLOGY**

FOLLOWING THE ENERGY MEETING ROOM 410M

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL CHOICE

1:00 P.M. – EDUCATION COMMITTEE ROOM 434M

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

2:00 P.M. – EDUCATION COMMITTEE ROOM 434M

HOUSE OF DELEGATES
JEFFREY PACK, Clerk
Building 1, Room M-212
1900 Kanawha Blvd., East
Charleston, WV 25305-0470