

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

SENATE JOURNAL

EIGHTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 2026
SECOND DAY

Charleston, West Virginia, Thursday, January 15, 2026

The Senate met at 11:06 a.m.

(Senator Smith, Mr. President, in the Chair.)

Prayer was offered by Roger Leatherman, President of the Mineral County Commission.

The Senate was then led in recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance by the Honorable Robert Morris, Jr., a senator from the eleventh district.

Pending the reading of the Journal of Wednesday, January 14, 2026,

At the request of Senator Z. Maynard, unanimous consent being granted, the Journal was approved and the further reading thereof dispensed with.

The Senate proceeded to the second order of business and the introduction of guests.

The Clerk presented the following communication from a state agency as required by the provisions of law:

Legislative Rule-Making Review Committee (§29A-3-12)

The Senate then proceeded to the sixth order of business.

On motions for leave, severally made, the following bills were introduced, read by their titles, and referred to the appropriate committees:

[CLERK'S NOTE: Senate Bill 251 through Senate Bill 385 are recommended for introduction by the Legislative Rule-Making Review Committee and sponsored by Senator Rucker, Cochair.]

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 251—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-2-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Administration to promulgate a legislative rule relating to the One-Stop Shop Permitting Program.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 252—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-2-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Office of Technology to promulgate a legislative rule relating to cyber reporting.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 253—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-2-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Risk and Insurance Management to promulgate a legislative rule relating to mine subsidence insurance.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 254—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-2-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Risk and Insurance Management to promulgate a legislative rule relating to the public entities insurance program.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 255—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-2-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Risk and Insurance Management to promulgate a legislative rule relating to Preferred Medical Liability and High Risk Medical Liability Program.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 256—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-3-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to promulgate a legislative rule relating to alternative emission limitations during startup and shutdown operations.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 257—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-3-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to promulgate a legislative rule relating to ambient air quality standards.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 258—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-3-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to promulgate a legislative rule relating to standards of performance for new stationary sources.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 259—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-3-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to promulgate a legislative rule relating to control of air pollution from combustion of solid waste.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 260—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-3-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to promulgate a legislative rule relating to control of air pollution from hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 261—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-3-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to promulgate a legislative rule relating to emission standards for hazardous air pollutants.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 262—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-3-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to promulgate a legislative rule relating to cross-state air pollution to control annual nitrogen oxides emissions, annual sulfur dioxide emissions, and ozone season nitrogen oxides emissions.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 263—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-3-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Division of Water and Waste Management to promulgate a legislative rule relating to hazardous waste management system.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 264—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-3-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to promulgate a legislative rule relating to requirements governing water quality standards.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 265—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-3-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to promulgate a legislative rule relating to carbon dioxide sequestration fee schedule.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 266—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-5-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Health to promulgate a legislative rule relating to water well regulations.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 267—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-5-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Health to promulgate a legislative rule relating to lead abatement licensing.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 268—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-5-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Health to promulgate a legislative rule relating to emergency medical services.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 269—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-5-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Health to promulgate a legislative rule relating to fees for services.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 270—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-5-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Health to promulgate a legislative rule relating to clinical laboratory practitioner licensure.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 271—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-5-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Health to promulgate a legislative rule relating to distribution of state funds for support of local boards of health.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 272—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-5-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Health to promulgate a legislative rule relating to basic public health service standards for local boards of health.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 273—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-5-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Health to promulgate a legislative rule relating to diabetes self-management education.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 274—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-5-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Health to promulgate a legislative rule relating to the exemption of certificate of need.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 275—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-5B-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Office of Inspector General to promulgate a legislative rule relating to nursing home licensure.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 276—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-5B-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Office of Inspector General to promulgate a legislative rule relating to delegation of medication administration and health maintenance tasks to approved medication assistive personnel.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 277—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-5B-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Office of Inspector General to promulgate a legislative rule relating to assisted living residences.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 278—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-5B-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Office of Inspector General to promulgate a legislative rule relating to syringe services program licensure.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 279—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-5B-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Office of Inspector General to promulgate a legislative rule relating to behavioral health center's licensure.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 280—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-5C-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Health Facilities to promulgate a legislative rule relating to patient rights at state-operated mental health facilities.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 281—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-6-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Governor's Committee on Crime, Delinquency, and

Correction to promulgate a legislative rule relating to law-enforcement training and certification standards.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 282—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-6-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Fire Commission to promulgate a legislative rule relating to the fire code.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 283—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-6-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the State Emergency Response Commission to promulgate a legislative rule relating to emergency planning and community right-to-know.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 284—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-6-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the West Virginia State Police to promulgate a legislative rule relating to the West Virginia State Police Career Progression System.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 285—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-6-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the West Virginia State Police to promulgate a legislative rule relating to contracted police or security services.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 286—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-6-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the West Virginia State Police to promulgate a legislative rule relating to the West Virginia State Police Member Grievance Procedure.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 287—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Alcohol Beverage Control Administration to promulgate a legislative rule relating to private clubs.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 288—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Insurance Commissioner to promulgate a legislative rule

relating to fingerprinting requirements for applicants for insurance producer license and insurance adjuster license.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 289—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Insurance Commission to promulgate a legislative rule relating to premium financing for life insurance for college students.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 290—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Insurance Commission to promulgate a legislative rule relating to mass marketing of property and liability insurance.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 291—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Insurance Commission to promulgate a legislative rule relating to the advertisement of accident and sickness insurance.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 292—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Insurance Commissioner to promulgate a legislative rule relating to insurance adjusters.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 293—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Insurance Commission to promulgate a legislative rule relating to insurance holding company systems.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 294—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Insurance Commissioner to promulgate a legislative rule relating to credit for reinsurance.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 295—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Insurance Commissioner to promulgate a legislative rule relating to mental health parity.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 296—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Lottery Commission to promulgate a legislative rule relating to interactive wagering.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 297—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Racing Commission to promulgate a legislative rule relating to thoroughbred racing.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 298—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Racing Commission to promulgate a legislative rule relating to advance deposit account wagering.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 299—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Tax Department to promulgate a legislative rule relating to the valuation of timberland and managed timberland.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 300—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Tax Department to promulgate a legislative rule relating to the valuation of public utility property for ad valorem property tax purposes.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 301—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Tax Department to promulgate a legislative rule relating to a tax credit for providing vehicles to low-income workers.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 302—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Tax Department to promulgate a legislative rule relating to Downstream Natural Gas Manufacturing Investment Tax Credit.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 303—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Tax Department to promulgate a legislative rule relating to High-Wage Growth Business Tax Credit.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 304—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Tax Department to promulgate a legislative rule relating to commercial patent incentives tax credits.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 305—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Tax Department to promulgate a legislative rule relating to online bingo and raffles.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 306—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Tax Department to promulgate a legislative rule relating to the soft drinks tax.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 307—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Tax Department to promulgate a legislative rule relating to income tax credits for property taxes paid.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 308—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Tax Department to promulgate a legislative rule relating to preneed cemetery companies.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 309—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-8-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Division of Motor Vehicles to promulgate a legislative rule relating to motor vehicle equipment.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 310—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-8-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Division of Motor Vehicles to promulgate a legislative rule relating to compulsory motor vehicle liability insurance.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 311—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-8-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Division of Motor Vehicles to promulgate a legislative rule relating to special purpose vehicles.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 312—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Agriculture to promulgate a legislative rule relating to registration forms and tags for registration, taxation, and control of dogs.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 313—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Agriculture to promulgate a legislative rule relating to grades and standards for apples.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 314—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Agriculture to promulgate a legislative rule relating to public markets.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 315—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Agriculture to promulgate a legislative rule relating to the licensing of livestock dealers.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 316—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Agriculture to promulgate a legislative rule relating to Grade A pasteurized milk.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 317—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Agriculture to promulgate a legislative rule relating to select plant-based derivatives and select plant-based derivative products of hemp and kratom.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 318—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Agriculture to promulgate a legislative rule relating to agritourism.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 319—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Department of Agriculture to promulgate a legislative rule relating to exempted dairy farms and milk and milk products processing.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 320—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Attorney General to promulgate a legislative rule relating to the establishment and qualification of third-party dispute mechanisms.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 321—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Attorney General to promulgate a legislative rule relating to fair treatment of crime victims and witnesses.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 322—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Attorney General to promulgate a legislative rule relating to the prevention of unfair or deceptive acts or practices in home improvement transactions.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 323—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Attorney General to promulgate a legislative rule relating to the prevention of unfair or deceptive acts or practices in the sale of damaged goods or damaged products.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 324—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Attorney General to promulgate a legislative rule relating to administration of preneed burial contracts.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 325—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Architects to promulgate a legislative rule relating to registration of architects.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 326—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Architects to promulgate a legislative rule relating to fees for registration of architects.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 327—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the State Auditor to promulgate a legislative rule relating to standards for requisitions for payment issued by the state officers on the Auditor.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 328—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Barbers and Cosmetologists to promulgate a legislative rule relating to qualifications, training, examination, and certification of instructors in barbering, hair styling, nail technology, aesthetics, waxing, and cosmetology.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 329—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Barbers and Cosmetologists to promulgate a legislative rule relating to operational standards for schools of barbering, cosmetology, hair styling, nail technology, and aesthetics.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 330—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Barbers and Cosmetologists to promulgate a legislative rule relating to barber apprenticeship.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 331—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Barbers and Cosmetologists to promulgate a legislative rule relating to waxing specialists.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 332—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Examiners in Counseling to promulgate a legislative rule relating to licensing.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 333—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Examiners in Counseling to promulgate a legislative rule relating to licensed professional counselor license renewal and continuing professional education requirements.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 334—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Examiners in Counseling to promulgate a legislative rule relating to marriage and family therapist licensing.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 335—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Contractor Licensing Board to promulgate a legislative rule relating to West Virginia Contractor Licensing Act.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 336—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Division of Financial Institutions to promulgate a legislative rule relating to residential mortgage lenders, brokers, and loan originators.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 337—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Division of Financial Institutions to promulgate a legislative rule relating to the installation, operation, and sharing of customer bank communication terminals and the utilization of nonexclusive access interchange system.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 338—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Division of Financial Institutions to promulgate a legislative rule relating to the notice and treatment of joint accounts.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 339—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-7-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Commissioner of Financial Institutions to promulgate a legislative rule relating to the Fintech Regulatory Sandbox Program.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 340—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Funeral Service Examiners to promulgate a legislative rule relating to funeral directors, embalmers, apprentices, courtesy card holders, and funeral establishment requirements.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 341—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Landscape Architects to promulgate a legislative rule relating to fees.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 342—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Landscape Architects to promulgate a legislative rule relating to application for waiver of initial licensing fees for certain individuals.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 343—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Medicine to promulgate a legislative rule relating to licensure, practice requirements, disciplinary and complaint procedures, and continuing education for physician assistants.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 344—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Medicine to promulgate a legislative rule relating to continuing education for physicians and podiatric physicians.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 345—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy Technology Board of Examiners to promulgate a legislative rule relating to the Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy Technology Board of Examiners.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 346—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy Technology Board of Examiners to promulgate a legislative rule relating to continuing education.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 347—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy Technology Board of Examiners to promulgate a legislative rule relating to standards of ethics.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 348—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Municipal Pensions Oversight Board to promulgate a legislative rule relating to exempt purchasing.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 349—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Occupational Therapy to promulgate a legislative rule relating to continuing education and competence.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 350—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Optometry to promulgate a legislative rule relating to the Board of Optometry.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 351—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Optometry to promulgate a legislative rule relating to oral pharmaceutical certificates.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 352—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Optometry to promulgate a legislative rule relating to schedule of fees.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 353—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Optometry to promulgate a legislative rule relating to licensure by reciprocity.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 354—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Optometry to promulgate a legislative rule relating to continuing education.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 355—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Osteopathic Medicine to promulgate a legislative rule relating to licensing procedures for osteopathic physicians.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 356—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Osteopathic Medicine to promulgate a legislative rule relating to osteopathic physician assistants.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 357—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Osteopathic Medicine to promulgate a legislative rule relating to emergency temporary permits to practice during states of emergency or states of preparedness.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 358—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Pharmacy to promulgate a legislative rule relating to licensure and practice of pharmacy.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 359—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Pharmacy to promulgate a legislative rule relating to mail-order and nonresident pharmacies.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 360—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Pharmacy to promulgate a legislative rule relating to registration of pharmacy technicians.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 361—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Pharmacy to promulgate a legislative rule relating to pharmacist recovery networks.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 362—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Pharmacy to promulgate a legislative rule relating to immunizations administered by pharmacists, pharmacy interns, and pharmacy technicians.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 363—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Pharmacy to promulgate a legislative rule relating to pharmacy permits.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 364—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Pharmacy to promulgate a legislative rule relating to pharmacists.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 365—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Pharmacy to promulgate a legislative rule relating to inspections.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 366—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Physical Therapy to promulgate a legislative rule relating to general provisions for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 367—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Physical Therapy to promulgate a legislative rule relating to general provisions for athletic trainers.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 368—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Psychologists to promulgate a legislative rule relating to requirements for licensure as a psychologist or a school psychologist.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 369—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Public Service Commission to promulgate a legislative rule relating to the occupancy of customer-provided conduit.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 370—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Real Estate Commission to promulgate a legislative rule relating to licensing real estate brokers, associate brokers, and salespersons, and the conduct of brokerage business.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 371—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Secretary of State to promulgate a legislative rule relating to loan and grant programs under the Help America Vote Act for the purchase of voting equipment, election systems, software, services, and upgrades.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 372—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Senior Services to promulgate a legislative rule relating to shared table initiative for senior citizens.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 373—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-9-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Board of Social Work to promulgate a legislative rule relating to the fee schedule.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 374—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-10-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Division of Economic Development to promulgate a legislative rule relating to tourism development districts.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 375—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-10-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Division of Forestry to promulgate a legislative rule relating to rules for the certification of managed timberland.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 376—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-10-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Division of Labor to promulgate a legislative rule relating to child labor.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 377—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-10-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Office of Miners' Health, Safety, and Training to promulgate a legislative rule relating to the submission and approval of a comprehensive Mine Safety Program for coal mining operations in the State of West Virginia.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 378—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-10-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Division of Natural Resources to promulgate a legislative rule relating to small arms hunting.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 379—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-10-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Division of Natural Resources to promulgate a legislative rule relating to wildlife rehabilitation.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 380—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-10-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Division of Natural Resources to promulgate a legislative rule relating to special boating.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 381—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-10-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Division of Natural Resources to promulgate a legislative rule relating to defining terms used in hunting and trapping.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 382—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-10-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Division of Natural Resources to promulgate a legislative rule relating to prohibitions when hunting and trapping.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 383—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-10-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Division of Natural Resources to promulgate a legislative rule relating to deer hunting.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 384—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-10-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Division of Natural Resources to promulgate a legislative rule relating to special migratory game bird hunting.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 385—A Bill to amend and reenact §64-10-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Division of Rehabilitation Services to promulgate a legislative rule relating to the Ron Yost Personal Assistance Services Act Board.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Taylor:

Senate Bill 386—A Bill to amend and reenact §61-7-11a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; and to amend the code by adding a new section, designated §18A-2-16, relating to creating the School Safety Act; creating a mobile training team for the purpose of school safety; providing for regional mobile training officers; empowering the West Virginia Department of Homeland Security to create the program; providing for coordination between school protection officers and the mobile training team; permitting elementary and secondary school teachers and administrators to carry concealed weapons; classifying such persons who carry concealed weapons as school protection officers; providing that any teacher or administrator may become a school protection officer; providing for exceptions; defining public notice for when a school has a school protection officer on location; providing for an incentive in the form of a bonus to be given to school protection officers, and providing that this incentive may be revoked if school protection officers lose their classification.

Referred to the Committee on Education; and then to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Thorne:

Senate Bill 387—A Bill to amend and reenact §11-1A-3 and §11-1A-10 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to requiring the Commissioner of Agriculture to certify what is a farm for tax purposes; and promulgating legislative rules.

Referred to the Committee on Agriculture; and then to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Grady:

Senate Bill 388—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §18-9I-1, relating to requiring a public elementary or secondary school to make the Aitken Bible available to certain classrooms; specifying funds that can and cannot be used for this purpose; and clarifying that the requirement applies to public charter schools.

Referred to the Committee on Education.

By Senators Smith (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):

Senate Bill 389—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto 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, all relating to the West Virginia Historic Rehabilitated Building Tax Credit Act; providing a sunset on the current rehabilitation credits; creating 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; defining crimes and penalties; setting out the effective date; and providing for severability of any invalid provision.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senators Smith (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):

Senate Bill 390—A Bill to amend and reenact §29-31-11 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to altering conditions for disbursing funds from the West Virginia Flood Resiliency Trust Fund to better enhance flood prevention, safety, and protection.

Referred to the Committee on Government Organization.

By Senators Smith (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):

Senate Bill 391—A Bill to amend and reenact §49-2-102 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to allocating and station of child protective services workers by county; and reporting any changes to the allocation and station of child protective services workers.

Referred to the Committee on Health and Human Resources.

By Senators Smith (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):

Senate Bill 392—A Bill to amend and reenact §11-21-4h of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; and to amend the code by adding a new section, designated §11-21-4j, relating to personal income tax; modifying the effective date of future personal income tax reductions; providing for reduced graduated income tax rates; reducing the rate of tax on certain composite returns; reducing the rate of withholding tax on nonresident income; reducing the rate of withholding tax on the nonresident sale of real estate; reducing the rate of withholding on lottery winnings; applying reduced rates beginning on and after January 1, 2026; providing for contingent additional future reductions in the personal income tax rates when certain criteria have been met; making technical corrections; and providing effective dates.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senators Smith (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):

Senate Bill 393—A Bill to amend and reenact §11-24-3 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to bringing terms not defined in that act into conformity with the meaning of those terms for federal income tax purposes; and specifying effective dates.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Taylor:

Senate Bill 394—A Bill to amend and reenact §18-2-25 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to providing that the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission promulgate legislative rules.

Referred to the Committee on Education.

By Senator Taylor:

Senate Bill 395—A Bill to amend and reenact §31-2A-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to relieving a railroad company of any liability for injury to any person using a crossing during a parade by a school or any municipality, county, or other public entity that has permission for a parade, provided the railroad company is notified of the time of the parade and a train is stopped during the time of the parade.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Morris:

Senate Bill 396—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §11-13NN-1, §11-13NN-2, §11-13NN-3, and §11-13NN-4, relating to the West Virginia Job Training and Placement Act; creating a short title and legislative purpose; defining terms; setting qualifications for certain sales tax retention; and permitting the promulgation of rules.

Referred to the Committee on the Workforce; and then to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rose:

Senate Bill 397—A Bill to amend and reenact §11-24-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to reducing the corporate net income tax.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senators Smith (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):

Senate Bill 398—A Bill to amend and reenact §16-1-5 and §16-5P-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to modifying the qualifications for the State Health Officer, Commissioner of the Bureau for Public Health, and the Commissioner of the Bureau of Senior Services.

Referred to the Committee on Health and Human Resources.

By Senators Smith (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):

Senate Bill 399—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §49-13-101, §49-13-102, §49-13-103, and §49-13-104, relating to the creation of the Bring Them Home Fund; guidelines to disburse moneys from the fund for the purpose of renovating existing state properties to facilitate the expansion of West Virginia's child welfare provider network; and authority to promulgate legislative rules.

Referred to the Committee on Health and Human Resources; and then to the Committee on Finance.

By Senators Smith (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):

Senate Bill 400—A Bill to amend and reenact §11-21-9 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to updating the meaning of federal adjusted gross income and certain other terms used in West Virginia Personal Income Tax Act; and specifying effective dates.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senators Smith (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):

Senate Bill 401—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §5F-2-9, relating to exempting new hires and promoted employees within the Department of Health Facilities, Department of Human Services, and the Department of Health from the classified civil service system and the state grievance procedures beginning on July 1, 2026.

Referred to the Committee on Government Organization.

By Senators Smith (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):

Senate Bill 402—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 §5B-1-11, §11-21-12o, §11-24-6d, §21-18-1, §21-18-2, §21-18-3, §21-18-4, and §21-18-5, relating to the Workforce Readiness and Opportunity Act; creating the West Virginia Micro-Credential Program under the authority of the Secretary of the Department of Commerce; 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.

Referred to the Committee on the Workforce; and then to the Committee on Finance.

By Senators Smith (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):

Senate Bill 403—A Bill to amend and reenact §5B-2E-3 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to expanding the definition of "tourism attraction" to include lodging facility for purposes of the Tourism Development Act credit.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senators Smith (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):

Senate Bill 404—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §9-2-6b, relating to the authority of the Secretary of the Department of Human Services to contract and collaborate with both secular and faith-based providers of child welfare services; and permitting parent or legal guardian to object to placement at faith-based service on religious expression grounds.

Referred to the Committee on Health and Human Resources.

By Senator Clements:

Senate Bill 405—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §11-21-71c, relating to tax on income of nonresidents for natural resources royalty payments received from lessees; providing legislative findings; defining terms; providing for withholding of estimated tax liabilities from natural resources royalty payments for nonresidents by lessees; providing exceptions to the tax withholding requirements under certain circumstances; providing that withheld amounts be paid by lessees to the Tax Commissioner on behalf of the nonresidents; providing for refunds to nonresidents for overpayment; requiring annual withholding statements, reconciliation, and filing requirements; requiring electronic filing

under specified circumstances; providing for criminal and civil penalties in certain circumstances for noncompliance; providing for rulemaking; and providing an effective date.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Taylor:

Senate Bill 406—A Bill to amend and reenact §18-9D-1, §18-9D-2, §18-9D-3, §18-9D-4, §18-9D-4a, §18-9D-4b, §18-9D-4c, §18-9D-4d, §18-9D-6, §18-9D-7, §18-9D-8, §18-9D-9, §18-9D-10, §18-9D-12, §18-9D-13, §18-9D-14, §18-9D-15, §18-9D-16, §18-9D-17, §18-9D-20, and §18-9D-21 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to changing the name of the School Building Authority to the School Maintenance Authority.

Referred to the Committee on Education; and then to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 407—A Bill to amend and reenact §17-2C-1, §17-2C-2, and §17-2C-3 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; and to repeal §17-2C-4, §17-2C-5, and §17-2C-6, relating to the Orphan Road and Bridge Improvement Program; providing definitions; setting the process for upgrading orphaned roads, road maintenance agreements, inspections, and acceptance by the West Virginia Division of Highways of an upgraded road; and permitting rulemaking.

Referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; and then to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 408—A Bill to amend and reenact §16-3-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to communicable and other infectious diseases; ensuring that no law may require a person to receive or use a medical product; and ensuring there will be no penalties imposed nor benefit denied due to refusing a medical product or refusing to disclose whether a medical product has been used or not.

Referred to the Committee on Health and Human Resources.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 409—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, §18-2L-6, and §18-2L-7, relating to course-specific teaching; providing a short title; providing definitions; establishing course-specific permits; clarifying eligibility criteria; clarifying the role of local education agencies; identifying a list of qualifying courses; and providing a funding guarantee.

Referred to the Committee on Education; and then to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 410—A Bill to amend and reenact §17A-3-15 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to changing registration stickers and their placement on cars so that they are harder to steal.

Referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 411—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new chapter, designated §31K-1-1, §31K-1-2, §31K-1-3, §31K-2-1, §31K-3-1, and §31K-3-2, relating to land use associations; providing short title; defining terms; establishing construction of

chapter; providing statement of purpose; mandating registration of land use associations with Secretary of State; setting fee for registration; and prescribing content of registration form.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary; and then to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 412—A Bill to amend and reenact §18-2-9 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to the required instruction in human growth and development; providing for courses to include human growth and development related to pregnancy and human development inside the womb; and requiring methods of presenting this instruction.

Referred to the Committee on Education.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 413—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §47-29-1, §47-29-2, §47-29-3, §47-29-4, §47-29-5, and §47-29-6, relating to the Transactional Gold and Silver Act; providing legislative intent; defining terms; recognizing gold specie and silver specie as legal tender in the state; setting out duties of the State Treasurer's Office; providing for rulemaking; creating an implementation date and reporting requirements; and making certain transactions tax exempt.

Referred to the Committee on Banking and Insurance; and then to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 414—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §18B-23-1, §18B-23-2, §18B-23-3, and §18B-23-4, relating to the creation of the Keep Accreditation About Academics Act; providing for legislative findings; creating definitions; creating prohibitions; and providing for enforcement.

Referred to the Committee on Education; and then to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 415—A Bill to amend and reenact §16-1-6 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to the Commissioner of the Bureau for Public Health; requiring medical professionals to report to the Bureau for Public Health all injuries and side effects from vaccines and produce an annual report for the Legislature; requiring medical professionals that deliver vaccines to receive educational materials from the Bureau for Public Health about negative side effects from vaccines and to be formally trained every five years; and requiring the commissioner to make available a mechanism for individuals, including parents, to report adverse impact from vaccines.

Referred to the Committee on Health and Human Resources; and then to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 416—A Bill to amend and reenact §6B-3-10 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to prohibiting political subdivisions from using state funds to pay for lobbying; exempting law enforcement from the prohibition; and creating a cause of action to enforce the prohibition.

Referred to the Committee on Government Organization.

By Senator Rucker:

Senate Bill 417—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §46A-9-1, §46A-9-2, §46A-9-3, §46A-9-4, §46A-9-5, and §46A-9-6, relating to creating the Proxy Advisor Transparency Act; providing legislative findings; creating definitions; setting out disclosure requirements; providing for enforcement; setting an effective date; and providing a severability provision.

Referred to the Committee on Banking and Insurance; and then to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Helton:

Senate Bill 418—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §7-28-1, §7-28-2, §7-28-3, §7-28-4, §7-28-5, §7-28-6, and §7-28-7, relating to creating the Safer Communities Act; stating legislative findings and declarations; providing definitions; authorizing counties to levy a public safety sales or amusement tax; requiring notification to certain offices; providing for severability; and providing exclusions.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Deeds:

Senate Bill 419—A Bill to amend and reenact §11-9-2a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to removing the cap on the number of investigators for the criminal investigation division of the State Tax Department; and removing the cap on the number of examiners by the special audits division in the State Tax Department.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Helton:

Senate Bill 420—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §24-9-1, §24-9-2, §24-9-3, §24-9-4, §24-9-5, §24-9-6, §24-9-7, §24-9-8, §24-9-9, and §24-9-10, relating to the Public Service Commission and dispatchable in-state electric generation; providing legislative findings, purpose, and title; establishing the West Virginia First Energy Act; providing definitions; requiring minimum utilization of coal-fired electric generating facilities; requiring minimum on-site coal inventory and firm natural gas supply; requiring oversight of PJM Interconnection market participation and resource planning; restricting cost recovery and power-purchase agreements for new intermittent generation; conditioning rate increases on compliance; coordinating with the Electric Grid Stabilization and Security Fund; requiring reporting; granting implementation authority; and providing an effective date.

Referred to the Committee on Energy, Industry, and Mining; and then to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Chapman:

Senate Bill 421—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §49-2-815, relating to establishing of a pilot program for the use of mobile devices in child abuse and neglect investigations; setting forth an effective date; setting forth requirements for system; setting forth term of pilot program; and requiring reporting.

Referred to the Committee on Health and Human Resources; and then to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Helton:

Senate Bill 422—A Bill to amend and reenact §17A-2A-7 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to granting West Virginia companies operating towing and recovery vehicles

regulated by the Public Service Commission access to driver registration information on demand, providing Division of Motor Vehicles carry out steps needed to achieve this goal; and providing a date certain to meet this requirement.

Referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; and then to the Committee on Finance.

By Senators Hart, Fuller, Helton, Phillips, and Z. Maynard:

Senate Bill 423—A Bill to amend and reenact §24-2-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to creating the Public Electrical Savings Act; and creating parameters for power purchase agreements entered into by public entities.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senators Hart, Fuller, Helton, Phillips, Rose, Willis, and Z. Maynard:

Senate Bill 424—A Bill to amend and reenact §5B-2O-1, §5B-2O-2, §5B-2O-3, and §5B-2O-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; and to amend the code by adding a new section, designated §5B-2O-5, relating to establishing the Affordable Electricity and Economic Growth Act of 2026 to facilitate coke production and steelmaking in the state.

Referred to the Committee on Energy, Industry, and Mining; and then to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Morris:

Senate Bill 425—A Bill to amend and reenact §61-2-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to requiring a minimum time to be served upon a conviction of first degree murder with a sentence of life with mercy.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Senator Morris:

Senate Bill 426—A Bill to amend and reenact §24C-1-2, §24C-1-2a, §24C-1-3, and §24C-1-9 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating generally to underground facilities damage prevention.

Referred to the Committee on Energy, Industry, and Mining; and then to the Committee on Government Organization.

By Senator Morris:

Senate Bill 427—A Bill to amend and reenact §31-17-8 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to modifying the type of documentation required to be maintained by a licensed residential mortgage lender, broker, or servicer regarding loan fees or points.

Referred to the Committee on Banking and Insurance; and then to the Committee on Finance.

By Senator Morris:

Senate Bill 428—A Bill to amend and reenact §18A-4-8 and §18A-4-8a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to creating three separate job titles for school bus operators; and establishing pay scales.

Referred to the Committee on Education; and then to the Committee on Finance.

By Senators Oliverio and Queen:

Senate Bill 429—A Bill to amend the Code of 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §49-2-815, relating to the creation of the Child Care Workforce Scholarship Act for child care workers for the West Virginia Child Care Subsidy Program; providing benefits for the children of eligible workers regardless of household income; appropriating funds to support the expansion; and directing the Department of Human Services to promulgate emergency rules.

Referred to the Committee on Health and Human Resources; and then to the Committee on Finance.

The Senate proceeded to the seventh order of business.

Senate Resolution 3, Recognizing importance of strengthening US medical supply chains.

On unfinished business, coming up in regular order, was reported by the Clerk.

At the request of Senator Rucker, unanimous consent being granted, reference of the resolution to a committee was dispensed with, and it was taken up for immediate consideration and adopted.

Senate Resolution 4, Expressing support for WV law-enforcement professionals.

On unfinished business, coming up in regular order, was reported by the Clerk.

At the request of Senator Chapman, unanimous consent being granted, reference of the resolution to a committee was dispensed with, and it was taken up for immediate consideration.

The Senate then stood in observance of a moment of silence in recognition of the passing of Sarah Beckstrom, a West Virginia Army National Guard Specialist who was fatally wounded in Washington, D.C., while supporting Operation DC Safe and Beautiful.

The question now being on the adoption of the resolution, and on this question, Senator Chapman demanded the yeas and nays.

The roll being taken, the yeas were: Azinger, Barrett, Bartlett, Chapman, Charnock, Clements, Deeds, Fuller, Garcia, Grady, Hamilton, Hart, Helton, Jeffries, Martin, Maynard, M, Maynard, Z, Morris, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rose, Rucker, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Thorne, Weld, Willis, Woelfel, Woodrum, and Smith (Mr. President)—33.

The nays were: None.

Absent: None.

So, a majority of those present and voting having voted in the affirmative, the President declared the resolution (S. R. 4) adopted.

The Senate proceeded to the twelfth order of business.

Remarks were made by Senator Roberts.

The Senate then proceeded to the thirteenth order of business.

Senator Smith (Mr. President) announced the appointment of Senator Fuller to the Committee on Health and Human Resources.

Under the provisions of Rule 15 of the Rules of the Senate, the following senators were added as co-sponsors to the following bills and resolutions on January 14, 2026:

Senate Bill 1: Senators Phillips, Queen, and Deeds;

Senate Bill 2: Senator Deeds;

Senate Bill 3: Senators Clements and Deeds;

Senate Bill 4: Senator Deeds;

Senate Bill 5: Senators Clements, Hamilton, and Deeds;

Senate Bill 6: Senator Clements;

Senate Bill 7: Senators Clements and Queen;

Senate Bill 11: Senator Hamilton;

Senate Bill 15: Senator Phillips;

Senate Bill 19: Senator Clements;

Senate Bill 20: Senator Phillips;

Senate Bill 23: Senator Phillips;

Senate Bill 24: Senator Phillips;

Senate Bill 25: Senator Phillips;

Senate Bill 28: Senators Hamilton and Phillips;

Senate Bill 29: Senator Hamilton;

Senate Bill 30: Senator Phillips;

Senate Bill 31: Senator Clements;

Senate Bill 37: Senator Phillips;

Senate Bill 42: Senator Rose;

Senate Bill 47: Senator Rose;

Senate Bill 49: Senator Roberts;

Senate Bill 50: Senator Rose;

- Senate Bill 51:** Senator Rose;
- Senate Bill 59:** Senator Rose;
- Senate Bill 73:** Senator Rose;
- Senate Bill 76:** Senator Rose;
- Senate Bill 77:** Senator Hamilton;
- Senate Bill 79:** Senator Rose;
- Senate Bill 80:** Senator Thorne;
- Senate Bill 81:** Senator Thorne;
- Senate Bill 82:** Senator Rose;
- Senate Bill 88:** Senator Thorne;
- Senate Bill 92:** Senator Clements;
- Senate Bill 98:** Senator Clements;
- Senate Bill 102:** Senator Clements;
- Senate Bill 104:** Senator Hamilton;
- Senate Bill 110:** Senator Hamilton;
- Senate Bill 122:** Senator Clements;
- Senate Bill 131:** Senator Rose;
- Senate Bill 132:** Senator Hamilton;
- Senate Bill 135:** Senator Clements;
- Senate Bill 138:** Senator Hamilton;
- Senate Bill 139:** Senator Hamilton;
- Senate Bill 141:** Senators Hamilton and Phillips;
- Senate Bill 151:** Senators Clements and Hamilton;
- Senate Bill 154:** Senators Thorne and Phillips;
- Senate Bill 158:** Senator Hamilton;
- Senate Bill 162:** Senator Hamilton;

Senate Bill 165: Senator Hamilton;

Senate Bill 181: Senator Rose;

Senate Bill 183: Senator Thorne;

Senate Bill 184: Senator Rose;

Senate Bill 190: Senator Phillips;

Senate Bill 192: Senator Phillips;

Senate Bill 194: Senator Phillips;

Senate Bill 195: Senator Phillips;

Senate Bill 200: Senator Phillips;

Senate Bill 204: Senator Phillips;

Senate Bill 208: Senator Phillips;

Senate Bill 228: Senator Phillips;

Senate Bill 241: Senator Hamilton;

Senate Joint Resolution 2: Senator Phillips;

Senate Joint Resolution 8: Senator Hamilton;

Senate Joint Resolution 9: Senator Rose;

Senate Joint Resolution 12: Senator Phillips;

Senate Resolution 4: Senator Rose;

And,

Senate Resolution 5: Senator Hamilton.

Pending announcement of a meeting of a standing committee of the Senate,

On motion of Senator Martin, at 11:19 a.m., the Senate adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, January 16, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.
