

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

# SENATE JOURNAL

EIGHTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION, 2026  
THIRTY-FIRST DAY

---

Charleston, West Virginia, Friday, February 13, 2026

The Senate met at 10:34 a.m.

(Senator Martin in the Chair.)

Prayer was offered by Pastor Don Biram, Emmanuel Baptist Church, Charleston, West Virginia.

The Senate was then led in recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance by the Honorable T. Kevan Bartlett, a senator from the eighth district.

The following communication was reported by the Clerk:

RANDY E. SMITH  
SENATE PRESIDENT-LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



304-357-7801  
RANDY.SMITH@WVSENATE.GOV

STATE CAPITOL, ROOM M-229  
1900 KANAWHA BOULEVARD, EAST  
CHARLESTON, WV 25305-0800

February 12, 2026

Members of the Senate,

My sister, Diane, passed away unexpectedly and I'm returning home to be with my family. In my absence, in accordance with Senate Rule 5, I hereby call upon Senator Martin to preside during floor sessions beginning on February 13, 2026, for a period not to exceed three legislative days.

Please keep my family in your thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Randy E. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Randy E. Smith  
President of the Senate

Pending the reading of the Journal of Thursday, February 12, 2026,

At the request of Senator Bartlett, 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 Senate then proceeded to the third order of business.

A message from the Clerk of the House of Delegates announced the passage by that body and requested the concurrence of the Senate in the passage of

**Eng. Com. Sub. for House Bill 4412**—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new chapter, designated §49A-1-101, §49A-1-102, §49A-1-103, §49A-1-104, §49A-1-105, §49A-1-106, and §49A-1-107, relating to creating liability for publishers and distributors of sexual material harmful to minors; providing definitions; relating to what constitutes reasonable age verification; providing exceptions to applicability of this article; requiring a commercial entity that provides pornography and other materials defined as being harmful to minors as a substantial portion of the entity's content to verify the age of individuals accessing the material and establishing liability and a cause of action; for the retention of data; imposing liability for publishers and distributors of material harmful to minors who fail to comply with verification requirements; imposing liability for publishers and distributors of material that is obscene or child pornography; and providing that an internet service provider or hosting entity is not liable for hosting or transmitting material harmful to minors to the extent that it is not the creator of the material; providing a five year statute of limitations to these civil actions; relating to certain civil actions allowable by the Attorney General, relating to remedy of civil penalties, relating to how amount of civil penalties are to be based; relating to a five year statute of limitations for civil actions relating for Attorney General civil actions; relating to rule-making authority of the Office of Technology; relating to enforcement of the provisions of this article; and relating to a severability section.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

A message from the Clerk of the House of Delegates announced the passage by that body and requested the concurrence of the Senate in the passage of

**Eng. House Bill 4725**—A Bill to amend and reenact §61-8-19 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to cruelty to animals; creating the felony offense of committing a sexual act with an animal; creating definitions for the offense of committing a sexual act with an animal; clarifying the disposition of an animal following a dismissal of criminal charges; authorizing the court to make certain findings in ordering disposition based upon the protection of the animal; clarifying the length a time persons convicted of offenses may be subject to prohibitions on possessing animals; creating penalties; and creating civil and criminal penalties.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The Senate proceeded to the fourth order of business.

Senator Helton, from 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

**Senate Bill 130**, Creating E-cigarette and E-cigarette Liquid Directory.

And reports the same back with the recommendation that it do pass; but under the original double committee reference first be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Helton,  
*Chair.*

The bill, under the original double committee reference, was then referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senator Willis, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on the Judiciary has had under consideration

**Senate Bill 185**, Allowing appointment of more than one chief deputy by sheriff.

And reports back a committee substitute for same with the following title:

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 185** (originating in the Committee on the Judiciary)—A Bill to amend and reenact §7-14-1, §7-14-2, and §7-14-13 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to appointment of more than one chief deputy by the sheriff; and providing a definition.

And,

**Senate Bill 648**, Relating to strategic and critical resources.

And reports back a committee substitute for same with the following title:

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 648** (originating in the Committee on the Judiciary)—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §15A-14-1, §15A-14-2, §15A-14-3, §15A-14-4, §15A-14-5, §15A-14-6, and §15A-14-7, relating to promoting the development and availability of strategic and critical resources through uniform statewide regulation; creating the Strategic and Critical Resources Act; providing legislative findings and purpose; defining terms and phrases; providing for state preemption of certain local regulations; clarifying the applicability of federal law, state statute and rule, and certain taxes, rates, charges, and fees; establishing certain foreign ownership limitations and restricted commerce entities; clarifying application of the act to certain activities of certain foreign adversaries; and requiring legislative rules.

With the recommendation that the two committee substitutes do pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas E. Willis II,  
*Chair.*

Senator Helton, from 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

**Senate Bill 398**, Removing full time requirement for health officers.

And reports back a committee substitute for same with the following title:

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 398** (originating in the Committee on Health and Human Resources)—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.

With the recommendation that the committee substitute do pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Helton,  
*Chair.*

Senator Morris, from the Committee on Government Organization, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on Government Organization has had under consideration

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 426** (originating in the Committee on Energy, Industry, and Mining), Preventing damage to underground facilities.

And reports back a committee substitute for same with the following title:

**Com. Sub. for Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 426** (originating in the Committee on Government Organization)—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 to preventing damage to underground facilities; allowing the Underground Facilities Damage Prevention Board to obtain liens on real and personal property for failure to pay assessed penalties; modifying time period in which operators must respond to one-call system notifications; and allowing mutual waiver of response time.

With the recommendation that the committee substitute for committee substitute do pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert L. Morris, Jr.,  
*Chair.*

Senator Grady, from the Committee on Education, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on Education has had under consideration

**Senate Bill 437**, Fair State Aid Formula Act of 2026.

And reports back a committee substitute for same with the following title:

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 437** (originating in the Committee on Education)—A Bill to amend and reenact §18-9A-2 and §18-9A-19 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to public school district funding; adding additional weighting for special education students for purposes of determining each county school district's net enrollment used to calculate the county's basic foundation program; requiring calculations of the additional funding due to the additional weighting for special education students to be made after all other calculations under the definition of "net enrollment" are made; providing that block grant provisions applicable to most state aid do not apply to funds generated by the additional weighting for special education students; limiting additional expenditures of funding generated by the additional weighting for special education students to only being spent on direct instruction of special education students and prohibiting expenditures on facilities, administration, or training; requiring West Virginia Board of Education to monitor the expenditures to ensure the funds are spent only for allowable purposes; and providing that a school district cannot be penalized for the 2026-2027 school year only for not meeting the applicable minimum ratio of professional instructional personnel per state aid-funded professional educators, or the number employed, whichever is less.

And,

**Senate Bill 657**, Creating Cohen Craddock Student Athlete Safety Act.

And reports back a committee substitute for same with the following title:

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 657** (originating in the Committee on Education)—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, and §18-36-6, relating to establishing the Cohen Craddock Student Athlete Safety Act; providing legislative findings; defining terms; requiring the Board of Education to promulgate a legislative rule, in consultation with the Board of Physical Therapy, that governs concussion protocol, education, and training to reduce concussions and the development of a Concussion Education and Response Plan; allowing the West Virginia Board of Physical Therapy to provide a draft rule; requiring a school to adopt a Concussion Education and Response Plan in accordance with the rule; allowing individual student athletes participating in a school-organized football practice to use supplemental safety enhancing devices; allowing individual schools to require their student athletes participating in a school organized football practice to use supplemental safety enhancing devices; allowing county school districts to require student athletes at schools under their jurisdiction and participating in a school-organized football practice to use supplemental safety enhancing devices; preventing any person or entity from prohibiting a student from using supplemental safety enhancing devices while participating in a school-organized football practice; providing warranty and certification protections related to the usage of certain safety equipment; establishing the Cohen Craddock Memorial Grant Program and providing procedures; and creating the Cohen Craddock Memorial Grant Fund.

With the recommendation that the two committee substitutes do pass; but under the original double committee references first be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy N. Grady,  
*Chair.*

The bills (Com. Sub. for S. B. 437 and 657), under the original double committee references, were then referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senator Barrett, from the Committee on Finance, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on Finance has had under consideration

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 603**, Relating to Property Valuation Training and Procedures Commission.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Barrett,  
*Chair.*

Senator Jeffries, from the Committee on Economic Development, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on Economic Development has had under consideration

**Senate Bill 646**, Relating to WV employer-provided or sponsored child care tax credit program.

And reports the same back with the recommendation that it do pass; but under the original double committee reference first be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenn D. Jeffries,  
*Chair.*

The bill, under the original double committee reference, was then referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senator Helton, from 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

**Senate Bill 650**, Designating psychiatric hospital that treats exclusively civil and forensic patients.

And reports back a committee substitute for same with the following title:

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 650** (originating in the Committee on Health and Human Resources)—A Bill to amend and reenact §11-27-38 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to designating a psychiatric hospital that treats exclusively civil and forensic patients committed to it from the state or from state hospitals a state-designated hospital for purposes of the statute.

**Senate Bill 741**, Expanding pilot program to implement involuntary commitment process.

And reports back a committee substitute for same with the following title:

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 741** (originating in the Committee on Health and Human Resources)—A Bill to amend and reenact §27-5-1b of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to expanding a pilot program to implement an involuntary commitment process.

And,

**Senate Bill 766**, Creating Caregiver Tax Credit Act.

And reports back a committee substitute for same with the following title:

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 766** (originating in the Committee on Health and Human Resources)—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §11-29-1, §11-29-2, §11-29-3, and §11-29-4, relating to creating the Caregiver Tax Credit Act; defining terms; listing the guidelines for implementation; authorizing rulemaking for the Department of Revenue; and providing internal effective dates.

With the recommendation that the three committee substitutes do pass; but under the original double committee references first be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Helton,  
*Chair.*

The bills (Com. Sub. for S. B. 650, 741, and 766), under the original double committee references, were then referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senator Morris, from the Committee on Government Organization, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on Government Organization has had under consideration

**Senate Bill 703**, Adopting Social Work Licensure Compact.

And reports back a committee substitute for same with the following title:

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 703** (originating in the Committee on Government Organization)—A Bill to amend and reenact §30-30-3 and §30-30-5 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; and to amend the code by adding a new article, designated §30-30A-1, §30-30A-2, §30-30A-3, §30-30A-4, §30-30A-5, §30-30A-6, §30-30A-7, §30-30A-8, §30-30A-9, §30-30A-10, §30-30A-11, §30-30A-12, §30-30A-13, §30-30A-14, §30-30A-15, and §30-30A-16, relating to adopting the Social Work Licensure Compact; establishing purpose; defining terms; establishing requirements for state participation in compact; establishing requirements for a social worker participating in the compact; providing procedure for issuance of multi-state license; establishing the authority of the compact on member states; stating process for reissuance of license by new home state; providing for treatment of licenses for military members; describing authority of remote and home states to take adverse action against licensee; creating the Social Work

Licensure Compact Commission; establishing commission membership, duties, and powers; providing for the creation of a data system to be utilized by members states; authorizing rulemaking; providing for oversight, dispute resolution, and enforcement of compact; specifying effective date; providing for construction and severability; providing for consistent effect; mandating that provisions of compact supersede when in conflict with other state laws; adding definition; and authorizing Board of Social Work to require criminal history record checks for applicants for compact participation.

With the recommendation that the committee substitute do pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert L. Morris, Jr.,  
*Chair.*

Senator Helton, from 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

**Senate Bill 742**, Permitting physicians to determine 72-hour holds without contacting enumerated individuals.

And reports the same back with the recommendation that it do pass; but under the original double committee reference first be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Helton,  
*Chair.*

The bill, under the original double committee reference, was then referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Senator Morris, from the Committee on Government Organization, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on Government Organization has had under consideration

**Senate Bill 756**, Extending authority to state spending units.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Robert L. Morris, Jr.,  
*Chair.*

Senator Grady, from the Committee on Education, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on Education has had under consideration

**Senate Bill 778**, Relating to eligibility for homebound services for exceptional children.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Amy N. Grady,  
*Chair.*

Senator Barrett, from the Committee on Finance, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on Finance has had under consideration

**Senate Bill 784**, Supplemental appropriation to Department of Human Services, fund 8793.

**Senate Bill 785**, Supplemental appropriation to Department of Health, fund 5163.

**Senate Bill 786**, Supplemental appropriation to Department of Human Services, fund 5094.

**Senate Bill 821**, Supplemental appropriation to Department of Administration, fund 2367.

**Senate Bill 823**, Supplementary appropriation to Department of Revenue, fund 7352.

**Senate Bill 824**, Supplementary appropriation to Department of Veterans' Assistance, fund 6703.

**Senate Bill 826**, Supplementary appropriation to Division of Natural Resources, fund 3211.

**Senate Bill 831**, Supplemental Appropriation to Department of Human Services, fund 8794.

And,

**Senate Bill 843**, Supplemental Appropriation to Department of Health, fund 5144.

And reports the same back with the recommendation that they each do pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Barrett,  
*Chair.*

Senator Grady, from the Committee on Education, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on Education has had under consideration

**Senate Bill 802**, Relating to school preparation days.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Amy N. Grady,  
*Chair.*

Senator Barrett, from the Committee on Finance, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on Finance has had under consideration

**Senate Bill 875**, Supplemental appropriation to Department of Commerce, fund 8703.

And reports back a committee substitute for same with the following title:

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 875** (originating in the Committee on Finance)—A Bill making a supplementary appropriation of federal funds out of the Treasury from the balance of federal moneys remaining unappropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, to the Department of Commerce, Division of Forestry, fund 8703, fiscal year 2026, organization 0305, by supplementing and amending the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026.

With the recommendation that the committee substitute do pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Barrett,  
*Chair.*

Senator Jeffries, from the Committee on Economic Development, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on Economic Development has had under consideration

**Senate Bill 878**, Creating Office of Entrepreneurship within Office of Secretary of State.

And reports back a committee substitute for same with the following title:

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 878** (originating in the Committee on Economic Development)—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §5B-2P-1 and §5B-2P-2, relating to creating the Office of Entrepreneurship within the Office of the Secretary of State; providing definitions; establishing office purpose and duties; requiring state agencies to provide certain information to office; authorizing information to be provided; authorizing information to be disclosed pursuant to a confidential agreement; exempting disclosure of information to the public; requiring office to respond to requests from businesses within a certain period of time; requiring submission of an annual report containing certain information to the Joint Standing Committee on Economic Development; creating West Virginia Office of Entrepreneurship Fund and providing for an appropriation; and authorizing rulemaking.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Glenn D. Jeffries,  
*Chair.*

At the request of Senator Jeffries, unanimous consent being granted, the bill (Com. Sub. for S. B. 878) contained in the foregoing report from the Committee on Economic Development was then referred to the Committee on Finance.

The Senate proceeded to the fifth order of business.

Senator Rucker, from the Select Committee on School Choice, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Select Committee on School Choice has had under consideration

**Senate Bill 67**, Relating to public charter schools.

And reports back a committee substitute for same with the following title:

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 67** (originating in the Select Committee on School Choice)—A Bill to amend and reenact §18-5G-3, §18-5G-4, §18-5G-5, §18-5G-7, §18-5G-8, §18-5G-12, §18-5G-14, §18-9A-6a, and §18-9A-24, of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; and to amend the code by adding a new section, designated §18-5G-18, relating to establishing a right of first refusal for charter schools to obtain unused or underutilized public school buildings; providing direction on the funding disbursements for teachers of public charter schools that do not participate in the state teacher retirement funds; and clarifying the district schools procedures for students who are transferring to public school from a virtual charter school.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Puertas Rucker,  
*Chair.*

At the request of Senator Rucker, unanimous consent being granted, the bill (Com. Sub. for S. B. 67) contained in the foregoing report from the Select Committee on School Choice was then referred to the Committee on Finance.

The Senate 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:

**By Senator Deeds:**

**Senate Bill 938**—A Bill to amend and reenact §5-14-3, §15-5A-4, §16-1-6, §16-1-7, §16-1-8, §16-1-9, §16-1-9a, §16-1-9c, §16-1-15, §16-1-17, §16-2-5, §16-2-11, §16-2-12, §16-2-13, §16-3-5, §16-3C-2, §16-3C-8, §16-3D-2, §16-3D-3, §16-3D-4, §16-3D-7, §16-3D-9, §16-4C-2, §16-4C-3, §16-4C-4, §16-4C-5, §16-4C-6a, §16-4C-6b, §16-4C-8, §16-4C-8a, §16-4C-9, §16-4C-12, §16-

4C-13, §16-4C-14, §16-4C-15, §16-4C-16, §16-4C-20, §16-4C-21, §16-4C-23, §16-4E-2, §16-5-5, §16-5-11, §16-5-22, §16-5M-3, §16-5U-3, §16-9-2, §16-9-3, §16-9G-1, §16-22-2, §16-22-3, §16-32-11, §16-38-5, §16-40-2, §16-40-4, §16-40-5, §16-40-6, §16-40-7, §16-40-8, §16-41-3, §16-44-2, §16-56-4, §16A-11-1, §16A-11-2, §22B-2-1, §22C-1-4, and §61-12-3 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to the clarifying the powers, duties, and responsibilities of the Secretary of the Department of Health, the Commissioner of the Bureau for Public Health, and the State Health Officer.

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

**By Senator Jeffries:**

**Senate Bill 939**—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, §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, relating to taxation; providing legislative findings; creating a reshoring tax credit; defining terms; providing for the amount of the credit; establishing limitations; providing eligibility and certification requirements; providing for application, use, forfeiture, and accountability of the credit; prohibiting carryforward and carryback; providing for a renewable reshoring credit; providing for expiration; eliminating new credits after sunset; preserving credits earned prior to sunset; and providing an effective date.

Referred to the Committee on Economic Development; and then to the Committee on Finance.

**By Senator Garcia:**

**Senate Bill 940**—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §15A-10-26, relating to the Fire Marshal; and establishing an early detection cancer screening pilot program for active and retired firefighters.

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

**By Senator Woelfel:**

**Senate Bill 941**—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §55-7-33, relating to agreements concerning sexual abuse; setting out legislative findings; defining term; providing that certain agreements prohibiting the disclosure of information related to acts of sexual abuse are void and unenforceable; and specifying applicability of prohibitions.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

**By Senator Jeffries:**

**Senate Bill 942**—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §5B-2P-1, §5B-2P-2, §5B-2P-3, §5B-2P-4, §5B-2P-5, §5B-2P-6, §5B-2P-7, §5B-2P-8, and §5B-2P-9; and to amend the code by adding a new section, designated §24-2-4i, relating to establishing the Advanced-Baseload Energy Development Act; providing legislative findings; establishing the Advanced Energy Division within the Office of Energy; providing duties for the division; creating the Advanced-Baseload Energy Fund and providing authorized expenditures; authorizing the division to provide financial instruments to advanced-baseload energy projects, along with assistance from the Economic Development Authority; authorizing tax

incentives for advanced-baseload energy projects; requiring community benefit agreements; providing for public utility specific provisions; authorizing long-term power purchase agreements; providing for advanced-baseload energy projects to be eligible components of a certified microgrid district; providing that advanced-baseload energy projects may be utilized to serve high impact data centers; authorizing rule-making authority; and allowing rate allowances for public utilities to recover project costs for the development of advanced-baseload energy projects.

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

**By Senator Morris:**

**Senate Bill 943**—A Bill to repeal §49-5-106 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to repealing the data collection code section relating to the Supreme Court of Appeals, the Division of Juvenile Services, the Department of Human Services, and the Department of Education, jointly collecting and compiling data as the Juvenile Justice Reform Oversight Committee sunset on December 31, 2020.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Senator Oliverio offered the following resolution:

**Senate Concurrent Resolution 3**—Requesting the Joint Committee on Government and Finance study how to fund the Flood Resiliency Fund.

Which, under the rules, lies over one day.

Senator Takubo offered the following resolution:

**Senate Resolution 38**—Designating February 16, 2026, as Rural Health Day at the Capitol.

Which, under the rules, lies over one day.

Senator Grady offered the following resolution:

**Senate Resolution 39**—Recognizing the West Virginia Area Health Education Centers for their outstanding contributions to the health care workforce development in West Virginia.

Which, under the rules, lies over one day.

Senator Queen offered the following resolution:

**Senate Resolution 40**—Designating February 16, 2026, as Child Advocacy Center Day at the Legislature.

Which, under the rules, lies over one day.

Senator Grady offered the following resolution:

**Senate Resolution 41**—Recognizing West Virginia University Institute for Community and Rural Health for its outstanding contributions to the health care workforce development in West Virginia.

Which, under the rules, lies over one day.

Senators Morris, Smith (Mr. President), Azinger, Barnhart, Barrett, Barlett, Chapman, Charnock, Clements, Deeds, Fuller, Garcia, Grady, Hamilton, Hart, Helton, Jeffries, Martin, M. Maynard, Z. Maynard, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rose, Rucker, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Thorne, Weld, Willis, Woelfel, and Woodrum offered the following resolution:

**Senate Resolution 42**—Memorializing the life of the Honorable Walter Dolph Helmick, coal miner, welder, teacher, businessman, Mason, former West Virginia Commissioner of Agriculture, former member of the West Virginia House of Delegates, former member of the West Virginia Senate, statesman, and dedicated public servant.

Which, under the rules, lies over one day.

Following a point of inquiry to the Chair, with resultant response thereto,

The Senate proceeded to the seventh order of business.

**Senate Resolution 35**, Recognizing February 14, 2026, as National Organ Donor Day.

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

At the request of Senator Helton, 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 36**, Recognizing third week of July as Pretrial, Probation, and Parole Supervision Week.

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

At the request of Senator Willis, 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 37**, Designating February 13, 2026, as WV Silver Jackets Flood Resiliency Day.

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

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

The Senate proceeded to the eighth order of business.

**Eng. Com. Sub. for Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 173**, Prohibiting abortifacients.

On third reading, coming up in regular order, with Senator Tarr's amendment to the bill pending, and with the right having been granted on yesterday, Thursday, February 12, 2026, for further amendments to be received on third reading, was read a third time.

The question being on the adoption of Senator Tarr's amendment to the bill (*shown in the Senate Journal of yesterday, Thursday, February 12, 2026, page 15*), the same was put and prevailed.

On motion of Senator Weld, the following amendments to the bill were reported by the Clerk and considered simultaneously:

On page 7, section 10, line 34, after the word "occurred" by inserting the words "or in the circuit court of the county in which the abortifacient was received";

And,

On page 8, section 10, after line 55, by adding a new subdivision, designated subdivision (6), to read as follows:

(6) A manufacturer or distributor sending an abortifacient for use in connection with a lawfully valid prescription issued by a licensed medical professional in this state in accordance with the provisions of §16-2R-3 of this code.

Following discussion,

The question being on the adoption of Senator Weld's amendments to the bill, the same was put and prevailed.

On motion of Senator Weld, the following amendment to the bill (Eng. Com. Sub. for Com. Sub. for S. B. 173) was next reported by the Clerk:

On page 1, after the enacting clause, by inserting a new section, designated section 64, to read as follows:

### **ARTICLE 3. PURCHASING DIVISION.**

#### **§5A-3-64. Prohibition on contracting with companies that manufacture or distribute abortifacients.**

(a) The Legislature finds that:

(1) The State of West Virginia has a compelling interest in protecting the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens and in ensuring that drugs distributed within this state are lawfully prescribed, dispensed, and regulated in accordance with the laws of this state.

(2) The unlawful and unregulated distribution of prescription drugs, including abortifacients, presents significant risks to patient safety, and may impose significant public costs on the State of West Virginia, including increased health-care expenditures, emergency medical services, regulatory enforcement costs, and long-term public health impacts.

(3) The Legislature further finds that the interstate shipment and remote prescribing of prescription drugs in violation of West Virginia law undermines the state's ability to enforce its medical licensing, pharmaceutical, and public health laws and interferes with the state's authority to regulate the practice of medicine and the distribution of drugs within its borders.

(4) The Legislature finds that the unlawful and unregulated distribution of abortifacients is frequently conducted through interstate commercial channels, telemedicine platforms, and mail-order distribution systems that operate outside of the jurisdiction and regulatory oversight of this state, thus making the enforcement of West Virginia law oftentimes unobtainable.

(5) The Legislature finds that the State of West Virginia has a legitimate and substantial interest in ensuring that public funds are not used to subsidize, support, or contract with persons or entities that knowingly engage in conduct that violates the laws of this state.

(6) The Legislature therefore declares that it is the public policy of the State of West Virginia to take reasonable and lawful measures to prevent, deter, and address the unlawful and unregulated distribution of abortifacients within this state and to ensure that state resources are not used to subsidize or support such conduct.

(b) For purposes of this section:

(1) "Manufacturer" means any person or entity who is engaged in manufacturing, preparing, propagating, compounding, processing, packaging, repackaging, or labeling of prescription or nonprescription drugs, whether within or outside this state.

(2) "Public entity" means the state of West Virginia, or any political subdivision thereof, and all spending units of state government including those otherwise excluded from applicability under § 5A-3-1 of this code.

(3) "Wholesale drug distributor" means any person or entity engaged in wholesale distribution of prescription or nonprescription drugs, including, but not limited to, manufacturers, repackers, own-label distributors, jobbers, private-label distributors, brokers, warehouses, including manufacturers' and distributors' warehouses, chain drug warehouses and wholesale drug warehouses, independent wholesale drug traders, prescription drug repackagers, physicians, dentists, veterinarians, birth control and other clinics, individuals, hospitals, nursing homes and/or their providers, health maintenance organizations and other health care providers, and retail and hospital pharmacies that conduct wholesale distributions. A wholesale distributor shall not include any motor carrier or freight forwarder as defined in 49 U.S.C. § 13102, an air carrier as defined in 49 U.S.C. § 40102, a third-party logistics provider as defined in 21 U.S.C. § 360eee, or person or entity hired solely to transport prescription drugs.

(c) Effective July 1, 2026, a public entity may not enter into a contract with a manufacturer or wholesale drug distributor for goods or services unless the contract includes a written certification that the person or entity is not currently engaged in, and will not for the duration of the contract, engage in the manufacturing or wholesale distribution of abortifacients.

(d) Any contract that violates the requirements of this section shall be void as against public policy.

(e) The Director of the Purchasing Division is authorized to promulgate legislative rules, including emergency rules, to implement the provisions of this section.

Following discussion,

The question being on the adoption of Senator Weld's amendment to the bill, the same was put and prevailed.

On motion of Senator Rucker, the following amendment to the bill (Eng. Com. Sub. for Com. Sub. for S. B. 173) was next reported by the Clerk:

On page 6, section 10, line 26, after the word "code" by inserting the words "or the spouse or father of the child".

Following discussion,

The question being on the adoption of Senator Rucker's amendment to the bill, the same was put and prevailed.

The bill, as just amended, was again ordered to engrossment.

Engrossed Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 173 was then put upon its passage.

Pending extended discussion,

The question being "Shall Engrossed Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 173 pass?"

On the passage of the bill, the yeas were: Azinger, Barnhart, Barrett, Bartlett, Charnock, Clements, Deeds, Fuller, Grady, Hamilton, Hart, Helton, Jeffries, Martin, M. Maynard, Z. Maynard, Morris, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rose, Rucker, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Thorne, Weld, Willis, Woelfel, and Woodrum—31.

The nays were: Garcia—1.

Absent: Chapman and Smith (Mr. President)—2.

So, a majority of all the members present and voting having voted in the affirmative, the Chair declared the bill (Eng. Com. Sub. for Com. Sub. for S. B. 173) passed.

On motion of Senator Weld, the following amendment to the title of the bill was reported by the Clerk and adopted:

**Eng. Com. Sub. for Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 173**—A Bill to amend and reenact §16-2R-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; and to amend the code by adding three new sections, designated §5A-3-64, §16-2R-10, and §16-2R-11 relating to prohibiting abortifacients; defining terms; creating criminal penalties; providing for revocation of medical license in certain circumstances; creating civil cause of action; providing exceptions to applicability; requiring attestation; establishing findings of the Legislature; forbidding the State of West Virginia, any political subdivision thereof, and spending units of state government from entering into contracts with persons or entities that manufacture or distribute abortifacients; and providing for rulemaking.

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

Thereafter, at the request of Senator Helton, and by unanimous consent, the remarks by Senators Roberts and Rose regarding the passage of Engrossed Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 173 were ordered printed in the Appendix to the Journal.

At the request of Senator Rose, unanimous consent being granted, the remarks by Senator Weld regarding the passage of Engrossed Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 173 were ordered printed in the Appendix to the Journal.

At the request of Senator Fuller, and by unanimous consent, the remarks by Senator Helton regarding the passage of Engrossed Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 173 were ordered printed in the Appendix to the Journal.

**Eng. Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 389**, Historic Rehab Building Credit Act.

On third reading, coming up in regular order, was read a third time and put upon its passage.

On the passage of the bill, the yeas were: Azinger, Barnhart, Barrett, Bartlett, Charnock, Clements, Deeds, Fuller, Garcia, Grady, Hamilton, Hart, Helton, Jeffries, Martin, M. Maynard, Z. Maynard, Morris, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rose, Rucker, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Thorne, Weld, Willis, Woelfel, and Woodrum—32.

The nays were: None.

Absent: Chapman and Smith (Mr. President)—2.

So, a majority of all the members present and voting having voted in the affirmative, the Chair declared the bill (Eng. Com. Sub. for S. B. 389) passed with its title.

Senator Rucker moved that the bill take effect July 1, 2026.

On this question, the yeas were: Azinger, Barnhart, Barrett, Bartlett, Charnock, Clements, Deeds, Fuller, Garcia, Grady, Hamilton, Hart, Helton, Jeffries, Martin, M. Maynard, Z. Maynard, Morris, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rose, Rucker, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Thorne, Weld, Willis, Woelfel, and Woodrum—32.

The nays were: None.

Absent: Chapman and Smith (Mr. President)—2.

So, two thirds of all the members elected to the Senate having voted in the affirmative, the Chair declared the bill (Eng. Com. Sub. for S. B. 389) takes effect July 1, 2026.

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

**Eng. Senate Bill 393**, Updating corporate net income tax definitions.

On third reading, coming up in regular order, was read a third time and put upon its passage.

On the passage of the bill, the yeas were: Azinger, Barnhart, Barrett, Bartlett, Charnock, Clements, Deeds, Fuller, Garcia, Grady, Hamilton, Hart, Helton, Jeffries, Martin, M. Maynard, Z. Maynard, Morris, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rose, Rucker, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Thorne, Weld, Willis, Woelfel, and Woodrum—32.

The nays were: None.

Absent: Chapman and Smith (Mr. President)—2.

So, a majority of all the members present and voting having voted in the affirmative, the Chair declared the bill (Eng. S. B. 393) passed with its title.

Senator Rucker moved that the bill take effect from passage.

On this question, the yeas were: Azinger, Barnhart, Barrett, Bartlett, Charnock, Clements, Deeds, Fuller, Garcia, Grady, Hamilton, Hart, Helton, Jeffries, Martin, M. Maynard, Z. Maynard, Morris, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rose, Rucker, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Thorne, Weld, Willis, Woelfel, and Woodrum—32.

The nays were: None.

Absent: Chapman and Smith (Mr. President)—2.

So, two thirds of all the members elected to the Senate having voted in the affirmative, the Chair declared the bill (Eng. S. B. 393) takes effect from passage.

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

**Eng. Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 531**, Establishing First Amendment Preservation Act.

On third reading, coming up in regular order, was read a third time and put upon its passage.

Pending extended discussion,

The question being "Shall Engrossed Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 531 pass?"

On the passage of the bill, the yeas were: Azinger, Barnhart, Barrett, Bartlett, Charnock, Clements, Deeds, Fuller, Grady, Hamilton, Hart, Helton, Jeffries, Martin, M. Maynard, Z. Maynard, Morris, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rose, Rucker, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Thorne, Weld, Willis, and Woodrum—30.

The nays were: Garcia and Woelfel—2.

Absent: Chapman and Smith (Mr. President)—2.

So, a majority of all the members present and voting having voted in the affirmative, the Chair declared the bill (Eng. Com. Sub. for S. B. 531) passed with its title.

Senator Rucker moved that the bill take effect July 1, 2026.

On this question, the yeas were: Azinger, Barnhart, Barrett, Bartlett, Charnock, Clements, Deeds, Fuller, Grady, Hamilton, Hart, Helton, Jeffries, Martin, M. Maynard, Z. Maynard, Morris, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rose, Rucker, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Thorne, Weld, Willis, and Woodrum—30.

The nays were: Garcia and Woelfel—2.

Absent: Chapman and Smith (Mr. President)—2.

So, two thirds of all the members elected to the Senate having voted in the affirmative, the Chair declared the bill (Eng. Com. Sub. for S. B. 531) takes effect July 1, 2026.

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

**Eng. Senate Bill 570**, Supplemental Appropriation to Department of Health, fund 8802.

On third reading, coming up in regular order, was read a third time and put upon its passage.

On the passage of the bill, the yeas were: Azinger, Barnhart, Barrett, Bartlett, Charnock, Clements, Deeds, Fuller, Garcia, Grady, Hamilton, Hart, Helton, Jeffries, Martin, M. Maynard, Z. Maynard, Morris, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rose, Rucker, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Thorne, Weld, Willis, Woelfel, and Woodrum—32.

The nays were: None.

Absent: Chapman and Smith (Mr. President)—2.

So, a majority of all the members elected to the Senate having voted in the affirmative, the Chair declared the bill (Eng. S. B. 570) passed with its title.

Senator Rucker moved that the bill take effect from passage.

On this question, the yeas were: Azinger, Barnhart, Barrett, Bartlett, Charnock, Clements, Deeds, Fuller, Garcia, Grady, Hamilton, Hart, Helton, Jeffries, Martin, M. Maynard, Z. Maynard, Morris, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rose, Rucker, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Thorne, Weld, Willis, Woelfel, and Woodrum—32.

The nays were: None.

Absent: Chapman and Smith (Mr. President)—2.

So, two thirds of all the members elected to the Senate having voted in the affirmative, the Chair declared the bill (Eng. S. B. 570) takes effect from passage.

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

**Eng. Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 692**, Authorizing green flashing warning lights on DOH vehicles.

On third reading, coming up in regular order, was read a third time and put upon its passage.

On the passage of the bill, the yeas were: Azinger, Barnhart, Barrett, Bartlett, Charnock, Clements, Deeds, Fuller, Garcia, Grady, Hamilton, Hart, Helton, Jeffries, Martin, M. Maynard, Z. Maynard, Morris, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rose, Rucker, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Thorne, Weld, Willis, Woelfel, and Woodrum—32.

The nays were: None.

Absent: Chapman and Smith (Mr. President)—2.

So, a majority of all the members present and voting having voted in the affirmative, the Chair declared the bill (Eng. Com. Sub. for S. B. 692) passed with its title.

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

**Eng. Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 772**, Declaring certain claims against WV to be moral obligations.

On third reading, coming up in regular order, was read a third time and put upon its passage.

On the passage of the bill, the yeas were: Azinger, Barnhart, Barrett, Bartlett, Charnock, Clements, Deeds, Fuller, Garcia, Grady, Hamilton, Hart, Helton, Jeffries, Martin, M. Maynard, Z. Maynard, Morris, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rose, Rucker, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Thorne, Weld, Willis, Woelfel, and Woodrum—32.

The nays were: None.

Absent: Chapman and Smith (Mr. President)—2.

So, a majority of all the members present and voting having voted in the affirmative, the Chair declared the bill (Eng. Com. Sub. for S. B. 772) passed with its title.

Senator Rucker moved that the bill take effect from passage.

On this question, the yeas were: Azinger, Barnhart, Barrett, Bartlett, Charnock, Clements, Deeds, Fuller, Garcia, Grady, Hamilton, Hart, Helton, Jeffries, Martin, M. Maynard, Z. Maynard, Morris, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rose, Rucker, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Thorne, Weld, Willis, Woelfel, and Woodrum—32.

The nays were: None.

Absent: Chapman and Smith (Mr. President)—2.

So, two thirds of all the members elected to the Senate having voted in the affirmative, the Chair declared the bill (Eng. Com. Sub. for S. B. 772) takes effect from passage.

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

**Eng. Senate Bill 781**, Supplemental appropriation for Civil Contingent Fund, fund 0105.

On third reading, coming up in regular order, was read a third time and put upon its passage.

On the passage of the bill, the yeas were: Azinger, Barnhart, Barrett, Bartlett, Charnock, Clements, Deeds, Fuller, Garcia, Grady, Hamilton, Hart, Helton, Jeffries, Martin, M. Maynard, Z. Maynard, Morris, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rose, Rucker, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Thorne, Weld, Willis, Woelfel, and Woodrum—32.

The nays were: None.

Absent: Chapman and Smith (Mr. President)—2.

So, a majority of all the members elected to the Senate having voted in the affirmative, the Chair declared the bill (Eng. S. B. 781) passed with its title.

Senator Rucker moved that the bill take effect from passage.

On this question, the yeas were: Azinger, Barnhart, Barrett, Bartlett, Charnock, Clements, Deeds, Fuller, Garcia, Grady, Hamilton, Hart, Helton, Jeffries, Martin, M. Maynard, Z. Maynard, Morris, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rose, Rucker, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Thorne, Weld, Willis, Woelfel, and Woodrum—32.

The nays were: None.

Absent: Chapman and Smith (Mr. President)—2.

So, two thirds of all the members elected to the Senate having voted in the affirmative, the Chair declared the bill (Eng. S. B. 781) takes effect from passage.

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

The Senate proceeded to the ninth order of business.

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 104**, Providing certain state mine inspectors with raise.

On second reading, coming up in regular order, was read a second time and ordered to engrossment and third reading.

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 188**, Changing length of term of state political party chair.

On second reading, coming up in regular order, was read a second time and ordered to engrossment and third reading.

**Com. Sub. for Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 231**, Relating to value-based payment requirements.

On second reading, coming up in regular order, was read a second time and ordered to engrossment and third reading.

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 251**, Authorizing Department of Administration to promulgate legislative rules.

On second reading, coming up in regular order, was read a second time and ordered to engrossment and third reading.

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 640**, Prohibiting release of certain personal information of contributors to political elections.

On second reading, coming up in regular order, was read a second time and ordered to engrossment and third reading.

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 671**, Relating to WV Real Estate Commission.

On second reading, coming up in regular order, was read a second time and ordered to engrossment and third reading.

**Senate Bill 726**, Removing cap for municipalities on their stabilization fund.

On second reading, coming up in regular order, was read a second time and ordered to engrossment and third reading.

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 804**, Removing physical education requirements for certain middle and high school athletes.

On second reading, coming up in regular order, was read a second time and ordered to engrossment and third reading.

**Senate Bill 825**, Supplementary appropriation to Department of Administration, fund 0226.

On second reading, coming up in regular order, was read a second time and ordered to engrossment and third reading.

**Senate Bill 868**, Supplemental Appropriation for fiscal year ending June 30, 2026.

On second reading, coming up in regular order, was read a second time and ordered to engrossment and third reading.

**Eng. Com. Sub. for House Bill 4433**, Prohibiting Human Smuggling and Trafficking.

On second reading, coming up in regular order, was read a second time.

At the request of Senator Rucker, and by unanimous consent, the bill was advanced to third reading with the unreported Judiciary committee amendment pending and the right for further amendments to be considered on that reading.

The Senate proceeded to the tenth order of business.

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 643**, Discontinuing WV Supreme Court of Appeals Public Campaign Financing Program.

On first reading, coming up in regular order, was read a first time and ordered to second reading.

**Senate Bill 712**, Allowing installation of cattle guards on certain public roads.

On first reading, coming up in regular order, was read a first time and ordered to second reading.

**Senate Bill 793**, Relating to courthouse closures on certain days.

On first reading, coming up in regular order, was read a first time and ordered to second reading.

**Senate Bill 796**, Relating to distribution of West Virginia reports.

On first reading, coming up in regular order, was read a first time and ordered to second reading.

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 800**, Clarifying policy of state regarding jury service.

On first reading, coming up in regular order, was read a first time and ordered to second reading.

**Eng. House Bill 4474**, Extending the Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementia Advisory Council sunset date.

On first reading, coming up in regular order, was read a first time and ordered to second reading.

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

The Senate then proceeded to the thirteenth order of business.

At the request of Senator Rucker, unanimous consent being granted, a leave of absence for the day was granted Senator Smith (Mr. President).

Under the provisions of Rule 15 of the Rules of the Senate, the following senator was removed as a co-sponsor of the following bill on February 12, 2026:

**Senate Bill 757**: Senator Woelfel.

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 February 12, 2026:

**Senate Bill 437**: Senators Tarr and Grady;

**Senate Bill 643**: Senator Deeds;

**Senate Bill 646**: Senator Barnhart;

**Senate Bill 650**: Senator Takubo;

**Senate Bill 657**: Senator Barnhart;

**Senate Bill 737**: Senator Bartlett;

**Senate Bill 741**: Senator Thorne;

**Senate Bill 766**: Senators Garcia, Takubo, and Queen;

**Senate Bill 802**: Senators Tarr and Hart;

**Senate Bill 810**: Senator Z. Maynard;

**Senate Bill 811**: Senator Z. Maynard;

**Senate Bill 878**: Senator Barnhart;

**Senate Bill 895:** Senator Z. Maynard;

**Senate Bill 925:** Senators Thorne and Clements;

**Senate Bill 928:** Senator Clements;

**Senate Bill 931:** Senator Grady;

**Senate Bill 932:** Senator Rucker;

**Senate Bill 935:** Senators Roberts and Rucker;

**Senate Bill 936:** Senator Barrett;

**Senate Joint Resolution 2:** Senator Z. Maynard;

**Senate Joint Resolution 3:** Senator Z. Maynard;

**Senate Joint Resolution 4:** Senator Z. Maynard;

**Senate Joint Resolution 6:** Senator Z. Maynard;

**Senate Joint Resolution 9:** Senator Roberts;

**Senate Joint Resolution 11:** Senator Jeffries;

**Senate Resolution 32:** Senators Hart, Oliverio, Z. Maynard, Thorne, and Charnock;

**Senate Resolution 35:** Senator Grady;

**Senate Resolution 36:** Senator Grady;

And,

**Senate Resolution 37:** Senator Weld.

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

On motion of Senator Rucker, at 12:07 p.m., the Senate adjourned until Monday, February 16, 2026, at 11:15 a.m.

---

## **SENATE CALENDAR**

**Monday, February 16, 2026  
11:15 AM**

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- S. C. R. 3 - Requesting Joint Committee on Government and Finance study funding for Flood Resiliency Fund
- S. R. 38 - Designating February 16, 2026, as Rural Health Day
- S. R. 39 - Recognizing WV Area Health Education Centers for outstanding contributions to WV
- S. R. 40 - Designating February 16, 2026, as Child Advocacy Center Day
- S. R. 41 - Recognizing WVU Institute for Community and Rural Health for its outstanding contributions to WV
- S. R. 42 - Memorializing life of Honorable Walter Dolph Helmick

### **THIRD READING**

- Eng. Com. Sub. for S. B. 104 - Providing certain state mine inspectors with raise
- Eng. Com. Sub. for S. B. 188 - Changing length of term of state political party chair
- Eng. Com. Sub. for Com. Sub. for S. B. 231 - Relating to value-based payment requirements
- Eng. Com. Sub. for S. B. 251 - Authorizing Department of Administration to promulgate legislative rules
- Eng. Com. Sub. for S. B. 640 - Prohibiting release of certain personal information of contributors to political elections (original similar to HB5066)
- Eng. Com. Sub. for S. B. 671 - Relating to WV Real Estate Commission
- Eng. S. B. 726 - Removing cap for municipalities on their stabilization fund
- Eng. Com. Sub. for S. B. 804 - Removing physical education requirements for certain middle and high school athletes
- Eng. S. B. 825 - Supplementary appropriation to Department of Administration, fund 0226 (original similar to HB5282)
- Eng. S. B. 868 - Supplemental Appropriation for fiscal year ending June 30, 2026
- Eng. Com. Sub. for H. B. 4433 - Prohibiting Human Smuggling and Trafficking - (Com. amend. and title amend. pending) - (With right to amend)

### **SECOND READING**

- Com. Sub. for S. B. 643 - Discontinuing WV Supreme Court of Appeals Public Campaign Financing Program

- S. B. 712 - Allowing installation of cattle guards on certain public roads
- S. B. 793 - Relating to courthouse closures on certain days
- S. B. 796 - Relating to distribution of West Virginia reports
- Com. Sub. for S. B. 800 - Clarifying policy of state regarding jury service
- Eng. H. B. 4474 - Extending the Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementia Advisory Council sunset date. (original similar to SB604)

### **FIRST READING**

- Com. Sub. for S. B. 185 - Allowing appointment of more than one chief deputy by sheriff
- Com. Sub. for S. B. 398 - Removing full time requirement for health officers (original similar to HB4020)
- Com. Sub. for Com. Sub. for S. B. 426 - Preventing damage to underground facilities (original similar to HB4464, SB480)
- Com. Sub. for S. B. 603 - Relating to Property Valuation Training and Procedures Commission
- Com. Sub. for S. B. 648 - Strategic and Critical Resources Act (original similar to HB4985)
- Com. Sub. for S. B. 703 - Adopting Social Work Licensure Compact
- S. B. 756 - Extending authority to state spending units
- S. B. 778 - Relating to eligibility for homebound services for exceptional children
- S. B. 784 - Supplemental appropriation to Department of Human Services, fund 8793 (original similar to HB5294)
- S. B. 785 - Supplemental appropriation to Department of Health, fund 5163 (original similar to HB5290)
- S. B. 786 - Supplemental appropriation to Department of Human Services, fund 5094 (original similar to HB5287)
- S. B. 802 - Relating to school preparation days
- S. B. 821 - Supplemental appropriation to Department of Administration, fund 2367 (original similar to HB5291)
- S. B. 823 - Supplementary appropriation to Department of Revenue, fund 7352 (original similar to HB5298)
- S. B. 824 - Supplementary appropriation to Department of Veterans' Assistance, fund 6703 (original similar to HB5303)
- S. B. 826 - Supplementary appropriation to Division of Natural Resources, fund 3211 (original similar to HB5318)
- S. B. 831 - Supplemental Appropriation to Department of Human Services, fund 8794 (original similar to HB5293)

S. B. 843 - Supplemental Appropriation to Department of Health, fund 5144 (original similar to HB5292, HB5314)

Com. Sub. for S. B. 875 - Supplemental appropriation to Department of Commerce, fund 8703

**ANNOUNCED SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**Regular Session 2026**

---

**Monday, February 16, 2026**

1 p.m.

Transportation & Infrastructure

(Room 451M)