

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2026 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 4375

By Delegates Burkhammer and Pinson

[Introduced January 15, 2026; referred to the

Committee on Health and Human Resources]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section,
2 designated §49-2-131, relating to requiring the Bureau for Social Services to promulgate
3 an emergency rule; and requiring all subsequent revisions to be filed as a legislative rule.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 2. STATE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR CHILDREN.

§49-2-131. **Rulemaking.**

1 The Bureau for Social Services shall promulgate an emergency rule for legislative
2 approval in accordance with the provisions of §29A-3-15 of this code to incorporate the now-
3 current version of the Social Services Manual previously incorporated by reference and effective
4 on July 1, 1986, at 78 CSR 5, which contains the procedures for foster care services among other
5 items. This manual has subsequently been revised outside of the legislative rulemaking process.
6 All subsequent revisions to this manual are required to be filed as a legislative rule.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require the Bureau for Social Services to file the Social Services Manual as a legislative rule. All subsequent revisions shall be filed as a legislative rule.

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