

SENATE RESOLUTION 4

(By Senators Chapman and Rose)

[Introduced January 14, 2026]

1 Expressing support for West Virginia's law-enforcement professionals.

2 Whereas, The law-enforcement officers of the State of West Virginia, including members of
3 the West Virginia State Police, county sheriff's departments, and municipal police departments,
4 serve their communities with dedication, professionalism, and integrity; and

5 Whereas, In West Virginia, law-enforcement officers are on duty through many different
6 detachments, such as the West Virginia State Police, the Division of Natural Resources, the
7 Capitol Police known as the Division of Protective Services, and West Virginia Department of
8 Homeland Security, as well as many other departments; and

9 Whereas, The law-enforcement officers of West Virginia perform their difficult and
10 dangerous jobs honorably and professionally, while strengthening their trust with the communities
11 they serve with the overwhelming majority of our citizens having a positive opinion of their
12 interactions with police; and

13 Whereas, Innovative and dedicated efforts by law-enforcement officers successfully
14 decreased crime, with violent crimes dropping by 7.5 percent in 2024, homicides decreased by 38
15 percent and other crimes such as robbery and property crimes by a combined 28.8 percent over
16 the past year; and

17 Whereas, The environment for officers has become increasingly more hostile and their
18 safety more precarious. Tragically, some dedicated law-enforcement officers have died in the line
19 of duty. Many law-enforcement officers typically see such traumatic events during their career with
20 statistics reporting these experiences resulting in a higher percentage of suicides; and

1 Whereas, Supporting law-enforcement officers with the equipment, training, and funding
2 needed to protect communities from criminal violence has long received overwhelming public
3 support across the political spectrum; therefore, be it

4 *Resolved by the Senate:*

5 That the Senate hereby expresses support for West Virginia's law-enforcement
6 professionals; and, be it

7 *Further Resolved*, That the Senate hereby expresses its sincere gratitude for their
8 continued commitment to public safety and community service; and, be it

9 *Further Resolved*, That the Senate hereby honors and commends the law-enforcement
10 officers of the State of West Virginia for their outstanding service and dedication; and, be it

11 *Further Resolved*, That the Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this resolution to
12 the West Virginia State Police Association, West Virginia Sheriff's Association, and the West
13 Virginia Chiefs of Police Association.