

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2026 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 4596

By Delegates T. Howell, Mazzocchi, Coop-Gonzalez,
White, Kimble, Crouse, Clay, Ferrell, Brooks, Holstein,
and Browning

[Introduced January 20, 2026; referred to the
Committee on the Judiciary]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section,
2 designated §15-16-10, relating to prohibiting subdivisions and local entities from adopting
3 policies that prohibit or restrict cooperation with federal immigration law enforcement.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 16. FEDERAL IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT.

§15-16-10. Denial of state funds; rule-making authority.

1 (a) A state entity, local entity or law enforcement agency may not receive state funds if the
2 entity adopts or maintains a policy in violation of this article and does not come into compliance
3 with this article within 90 days of receiving notice.

4 (b) State funds for a state entity, local entity, or law enforcement agency shall be denied for
5 the state fiscal year following the year in which a final judicial determination in an action brought
6 under §15-16-5 of this code is made that the entity has intentionally violated this article.

7 (c) The State Auditor shall adopt rules to implement this section among state agencies
8 from which state funds are distributed to a municipality or county pursuant to §29A-3-1 *et seq.* of
9 this code.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to prohibit subdivisions and local entities from adopting policies that prohibit or restrict cooperation with federal immigration law enforcement.

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