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February 24, 2025
THIRTEENTH DAY

Monday, February 24, 2025

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[DELEGATE HANSHAW, MR. SPEAKER, IN THE CHAIR]

The House of Delegates was called to order by the Honorable Roger Hanshaw, Speaker.

Prayer was offered and the House was led in recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Clerk proceeded to read the Journal of Friday, February 21, 2025, being the first order of business, when the further reading thereof was dispensed with and the same approved.

Committee Reports

Delegate Akers, Chair of the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Standing Committee on the Judiciary has had under consideration:

H. B. 2047, Prohibiting cameras and recording devices in bedrooms and bathrooms of foster children,

And reports back a committee substitute therefor, as follows:

Com. Sub. for Com. Sub. for H. B. 2047 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §49-2-128 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to prohibiting cameras in bedrooms and bathrooms of foster homes; exemptions; prohibitions,"

H. B. 2123, Modifying the criminal penalties imposed on a parent, guardian or custodian for child abuse,

And reports back a committee substitute therefor, as follows:

Com. Sub. for H. B. 2123 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §61-8D-3 and §61-8D-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, all relating to modifying the criminal penalties imposed on a parent, guardian, custodian, or person in a position of trust in relation to a child for child abuse resulting in bodily injury, serious bodily injury, and child neglect resulting in bodily injury, serious bodily injury, and child abuse or child neglect creating risk of injury; providing that a prior conviction under this section subjects a person to increased penalties; and providing a definition for a prior conviction,"

And,

H. B. 2170, Allowing volunteer fire departments to use fire protection funding for certain purchases,

And reports back a committee substitute therefor, as follows:

Com. Sub. for H. B. 2170 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended by adding thereto a new section, designated §8-15-8b, relating to allowing volunteer fire departments to use Fire Protection Fund monies to fund expenses associated with the purchase of health insurance, Worker's compensation supplemental wage replacement coverage, and implementation of the State Auditor's West Virginia Checkbook fiscal reporting system, also amending the code to increase the permissible amount volunteer fire departments may expend on educational and training supplies and fire prevention promotional materials, from up to \$500 to up to \$5,000 per year,"

With the recommendation that the committee substitutes each do pass.

Messages from the Senate

A message from the Senate, by

The Clerk of the Senate, announced the passage by the Senate, and requested the concurrence of the House of Delegates in the passage, of

Com. Sub. for S. B. 138 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §61-5-17 and §61-11-18 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to creating offenses for second, and third or subsequent offenses of fleeing from an officer; establishing criminal penalties for the new offenses; extending the period for which prior convictions may be used; specifying that the new offenses are qualifying offenses for recidivist sentencing enhancement purposes; and declaring that a conviction for fleeing in vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs is treated as a driving under the influence for licensure purposes"; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

A message from the Senate, by

The Clerk of the Senate, announced the passage by the Senate, and requested the concurrence of the House of Delegates in the passage, of

Com. Sub. for S. B. 139 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §3-10-5 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to the filling of vacancies in the Legislature; requiring that county and district political parties submitting a list of legally qualified persons to the Governor to fill a vacancy in the Legislature follow the process established by the state executive committee of that political party; and providing that an individual must reside within the district he or she would represent for one year prior to appointment in order to be eligible to fill a vacancy in the Legislature"; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

A message from the Senate, by

The Clerk of the Senate, announced the passage by the Senate, and requested the concurrence of the House of Delegates in the passage, of

Com. Sub. for S. B. 269 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §16-1-4 and §16-1-9a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to the regulation of public water systems; and providing that the Secretary of the Department of Health may not require public water systems or businesses to have backflow preventers"; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Public Works.

A message from the Senate, by

The Clerk of the Senate, announced the passage by the Senate, and requested the concurrence of the House of Delegates in the passage, of

Com. Sub. for S. B. 460 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §16-3-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to exemptions for compulsory immunization requirements; providing specific duties for the state health officer; removing reporting requirements; revising medical exemption process; eliminating state immunization officer; permitting religious exemption to mandatory vaccination requirements; permitting philosophical exemption to mandatory vaccination requirements; prohibiting entities from excluding participation in extracurricular activities based upon exercising an exemption; prohibiting entities from excluding attendance at school-based events based upon exercising an exemption; permitting a civil action for violations of this section; and setting forth public policy supporting exemptions"; which was referred to the Committee on Health and Human Resources.

Resolutions Introduced

Resolutions were introduced and severally referred as follows:

By Delegates Ridenour, Kimble, Holstein, Jennings, Ward and Butler:

H. R. 7 —"Requesting an inquiry into the COVID-19 pandemic"; to the Committee on the Judiciary then Rules

By Delegates Jennings, Dittman, Hott and Hite:

H. C. R. 62 —"Requesting the Division of Highways name Bridge Number: 39-066/00-002.25 () (39A218), (39.3584862709588, -79.8283876471375) locally known as YORK RUN BOX CULVERT, carrying Yorks Run Road over York Run, the "U.S. Army PFC Henry James Miller Memorial Bridge""; to the Committee on Energy and Public Works then Rules

By Delegate Adkins:

H. C. R. 63 —"Requesting the Division of Highways name bridge number 34-001/00-006.32 (34A002), at Latitude 38.5011610265538, Longitude -80.7633140291533, and locally known as Birch River Bridge, carrying Widen Dille Road over Birch River in Nicholas County, the "U. S. Army Spec. 4 Gary W. Spinks Memorial Bridge""; to the Committee on Energy and Public Works then Rules

By Delegates Lucas, Heckert, DeVault and W. Clark:

H. C. R. 64 —"A resolution to preserve the timeless beauty and heritage of West Virginia's natural wonders. Declaring that the landmarks, state parks, national forests, public waters, wildlife management areas, and all other state-owned properties within the great state of West Virginia shall remain untouched by the renaming of any politician, thus preserving their historical and natural integrity for generations to come"; to the Committee on Rules

By Delegates Young, Anderson, Browning, J. Cannon, Chiarelli, W. Clark, Clay, Crouse, DeVault, Flanigan, Hillenbrand, Holstein, Hornby, Marple, Pritt, Stephens and Zatezalo:

H. C. R. 65 —"Urging the United States Congress and the Department of Energy to fulfill federal obligations regarding spent nuclear fuel and establish a permanent repository"; to the Committee on Energy and Public Works then Rules

And,

By Delegates Ridenour and Butler:

H. C. R. 66 —"To declare the sovereign right of the State of West Virginia to nullify and prevent unconstitutional acts of the federal government"; to the Committee on the Judiciary then Rules

On motions for leave, Joint Resolutions were introduced and severally referred as follows:

By Delegate Young:

H. J. R. 24 - " Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of West Virginia amending section 13, ";

to the Committee on the Judiciary.

And,

By Delegates Young and Hansen:

H. J. R. 25 - "Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of West Virginia amending article III";

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

Bills Introduced

On motions for leave, bills were introduced and severally referred as follows:

By Delegates Canterbury, Zatezalo, Cooper, Campbell, Marple, Stephens, Kump, G. Howell, Anderson, Linville and Rohrbach:

H. B. 2727 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §18B-2A-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to requiring one person of the West Virginia University Board of Governors and of the West Virginia State University Board of Governors to have a background in agriculture or in an agricultural field"; to the Committee on Education.

By Delegates Amos and Browning:

H. B. 2813 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §18-5D-3 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to limiting the amount of carbohydrates served to children during a school day to a total of 75 grams per day; and providing for a regulatory and enforcement mechanism to ensure the implementation of this limit"; to the Committee on Education.

By Delegates Ridenour, Butler, Mazzocchi, Foggini, DeVault, Jennings, Mallow, Ward, Burkhammer, Dillon and T. Howell:

H. B. 2814 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §5-1-31, relating to requiring the Governor to establish crisis preparedness plans"; to the Committee on Government Organization.

By Delegates Funkhouser, Hornby, Holstein, Street, Roop, Ridenour, Bridges, Dean and Vance:

H. B. 2815 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §61-2-3, §61-11-8, and §62-12-13 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to parole eligibility; modifying eligibility for the crimes of murder in the second degree, modifying the parole eligibility for inmates serving life sentences and those who have been convicted of first degree murder; and modifying eligibility for attempted crimes of murder in the first and second degree"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Funkhouser, Ridenour, Horst, J. Cannon, Linville and Masters:

H. B. 2816 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §2-1-3, relating to clarifying secondary sources are not the law and public policy of West Virginia in certain instances; and permitting the use of certified questions on issues of first impression in certain circumstances"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Funkhouser, Flanigan, Ridenour, Horst and Linville:

H. B. 2817 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §3-8-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to modifying the requirements for reporting independent expenditures"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegate D. Cannon:

H. B. 2818 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §7-12-3, §7-12-3a, and §7-12-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to requiring that members of any municipal or county-board commission, authority, or committee are West Virginia residents with at least five years of West Virginia residency immediately preceding the appointment; and requiring that such members are residents of the county or municipality in which the development authority to which they are appointed is situated; and residency requirements for persons serving at the pleasure of any county, board, commission, or committee"; to the Committee on Government Organization.

By Delegates Crouse and White:

H. B. 2819 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §18-8-2a, relating to providing penalties for direct misinformation provided to parents, custodians, reviewers, and other individuals by county or state boards of education"; to the Committee on Education then the Judiciary.

By Delegate Young:

H. B. 2820 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §30-3-21, relating to providing that patients undergoing medical procedures may refuse to have such procedures observed by residents and medical students at the hospital"; to the Committee on Health and Human Resources.

By Delegates Young and Lewis:

H. B. 2821 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §18-5D-3 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to statewide expansion of Healthy School Meals for All through maximizing participation in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) or other universal meal options by requiring all schools that qualify for CEP to apply for this funding"; to the Committee on Education then Finance.

By Delegates Young and Lewis:

H. B. 2822 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §24-9-1, relating to prohibiting public utilities from terminating or disconnecting services during a state disaster emergency declared by executive order; creating duty to restore service; requiring public utility to enter into deferred payment agreement with residential customer during state of emergency; prohibiting public utility from disconnecting service for 180 days providing notice to residential customer; and establishing right of public utilities to recover funds owed in normal course following the state of emergency"; to the Committee on Energy and Public Works then the Judiciary.

By Delegate Young:

H. B. 2823 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §3-3-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to voting; and allowing voters 65 and older to vote absentee"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Young and Hamilton:

H. B. 2824 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §33-15F-1, §33-15F-2, §33-15F-3, §33-15F-4, §33-15F-5, §33-15F-6, and

§33-15F-7, relating to requiring medical insurance providers to include infertility services in their policies; making findings; providing for determination of infertility; providing prohibited and permissible limitations on coverage; requiring rule-making; establishing an effective date; providing for severability; and defining terms"; to the Committee on Health and Human Resources then Finance.

By Delegates Young, Lewis and Hamilton:

H. B. 2825 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §16-67-1, relating to establishing a food desert program under the Department of Agriculture to provide residents of food desert communities with access to fresh and affordable produce"; to the Committee on Government Organization.

By Delegates Young and Hamilton:

H. B. 2826 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §21-5J-1, §21-5J-2, §21-5J-3, §21-5J-4 and §21-5J-5, relating to the rights of applicants and employees to inquire about wages, benefits, and other compensation; and providing for a cause of action for violations"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegate Young:

H. B. 2827 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §9-11-1, §9-11-2, §9-11-3, §9-11-4, and §9-11-5, relating to creating the wholesale importation of prescription drugs program; providing definitions; design requirements of the program; implementation of the program by the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources; and requiring the department to report annually to the Legislative Oversight Commission on Health and Human Resources Accountability"; to the Committee on Health and Human Resources then Government Organization.

By Delegate Young:

H. B. 2828 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, and by adding a new article, designated §37-6B-1, §37-6B-2, and §37-6B-3, relating to the providing tenants the right to contact emergency services; to terminate a lease where there is fear of violence, and a residential tenant's right to privacy"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegate Young:

H. B. 2829 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §16B-17-3 and §16B-17-10 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to the Human Rights Commission; amending the definition of employer and the number of persons employed to qualify as an employer; and extending the period of the statute of limitations to file a complaint for an alleged unlawful discriminatory practice"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Young and Lewis:

H. B. 2830 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new article, designated §31-18G-1, §31-18G-2, and §31-18G-3, relating to establishing the Small Business Investment Fund; creating the Small Business Financing Authority; defining terms; establishing requirements to obtain the grant; and listing exclusions"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegates Young and Lewis:

H. B. 2831 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §16-8C-1, §16-8C-2, §16-8C-3, §16-8C-4, §16-8C-5, §16-8C-6, §16-8C-7, §16-8C-8, §16-8C-9, §16-8C-10, §16-8C-11, §16-8C-12, §16-8C-13, §16-8C-14, §16-8C-15, and

§16-8C-16, relating to establishing the West Virginia Prescription Drug Affordability Board; providing definitions; providing for the creation of a Board and the composition, compensation, and duties associated with the Board; providing for the creation of a stakeholder council and the composition, and duties associated with the Council; providing disclosures of conflicts of interest and requiring adherence to the Ethics Act; requiring a study and report on transparency data on prescription drug products; providing a cost review of prescription drug products with affordability challenges; requiring confidentiality; establishing a fund; providing for enforcement; clarifying drug products eligible; providing remedies; and listing all report requirements"; to the Committee on Health and Human Resources then Finance.

By Delegates Young, Lewis and Hansen:

H. B. 2832 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §3-2-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to eligibility of voters; removing the prohibition voter registration for persons convicted of certain felonies who have fully served their sentence; requiring the Division of Corrections to notify persons of their renewed eligibility to vote upon release; and requiring the Division of Probation to notify persons of their renewed voter eligibility upon discharge"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Young and Hamilton:

H. B. 2833 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §18B-22-1, §18B-22-2, and §18B-22-3, relating to creating the Hunger Free Campus Act; providing for a short title; enacting the act and providing for a legislative purpose; providing qualifications for campuses to be designated as 'Hunger-Free' zones; giving a reporting requirement; appropriating money; and providing for an effective date"; to the Committee on Education then Finance.

By Delegates White, Anders, Ridenour, Coop-Gonzalez, Parsons, B. Smith, T. Howell, Pinson and Dillon:

H. B. 2834 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §18-2-46, relating to requiring a moment of silence at the beginning of each school day; forbidding teachers from making suggestions as to the nature of the reflection that students may engage in during the moment of silence; and providing for the Attorney General to defend the provisions of this section"; to the Committee on Education then the Judiciary.

By Delegates Linville, J. Cannon, Phillips, Hillenbrand, Bridges, Holstein and Moore:

H. B. 2835 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §5A-6-10, relating to creating the West Virginia Infrastructure Deployment Clearinghouse"; to the Committee on Energy and Public Works.

By Delegates Rohrbach, Hornby, Amos, Funkhouser, Browning, Chiarelli, Holstein, Bridges, Pritt, Pinson and Dean:

H. B. 2836 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §20-2-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to wildlife resources; and permitting individuals, referred to as a 'Wildlife Rehabilitator', to capture and transport, receive, temporarily confine, provide medical and supportive care to release and humanely dispatch orphaned, injured or ill native wildlife provided that the methods and documentation for such activities are in accordance with permit conditions set forth by the director of the Division of Wildlife Resources"; to the Committee on Government Organization.

By Delegate Mazzocchi:

H. B. 2837 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §18A-4-7a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to permitting the granting waivers of experience required in employment of professional education personnel under certain circumstances"; to the Committee on Education.

By Delegate Young:

H. B. 2838 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §18-5-52, relating to feminine hygiene products; and providing feminine hygiene products to students in public schools at no cost"; to the Committee on Education then Finance.

By Delegates Pritt, Dittman, Young, Adkins, Moore, Drennan, Ferrell, Hamilton, Crouse, Petitto and Rohrbach:

H. B. 2839 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §18-5-52, relating to providing free feminine hygiene products to female students in public schools"; to the Committee on Education then Finance.

By Delegates Pritt and Stephens:

H. B. 2840 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §18A-2-2b of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to critical vacancies in educational settings; defining a critical vacancy; and requiring board staff certified in the subject matters where there are vacancies to act as a substitute in that position until someone is hired to fill that position"; to the Committee on Education.

By Delegates Pritt and Crouse:

H. B. 2841 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §18-4-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to establishing maximum salaries of county school superintendents for each of the 55 counties, based on student population of each county"; to the Committee on Education then Finance.

By Delegate Young:

H. B. 2842 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §16-67-1, relating to establishing the food waste task force"; to the Committee on Health and Human Resources then Government Organization.

By Delegate Young:

H. B. 2843 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §60-1-5 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, and to amend said code by adding thereto a new article, designated §60-11-1, relating to the sale of vintage distilled spirits"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegate Young:

H. B. 2844 - "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, and §5B-2P-6, relating to creating an Office of Entrepreneurship within the Office of Economic Development"; to the Committee on Government Organization then Finance.

By Delegate Young:

H. B. 2845 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §18B-22-1, relating to prohibiting an institution of higher education from requiring a current or prospective student, or current or prospective employee, to disclose their username or password for social media accounts or to require such person to change their social

media privacy settings, or add an employee or volunteer of the institution of higher education; and prohibiting an institution of higher education from taking action against such current or prospective student, or current or prospective employee, such as threatening to discharge, discipline, prohibit from participating in curricular or extracurricular activities, or otherwise penalize a current student for asserting their right under this article"; to the Committee on Education then the Judiciary.

By Delegate Young:

H. B. 2846 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §18-2-46, relating to implementation of trauma-informed practices in schools; providing for an effective date; providing for training; providing definition of trauma-informed practices; providing for disciplinary considerations in light of trauma-informed practices; providing for a culture of acceptance among educational professionals relating to trauma-informed practices within the school; and providing for rulemaking"; to the Committee on Education then Finance.

By Delegates Young, Pushkin and Lewis:

H. B. 2847 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §19-39-1, §19-39-2, §19-39-3, §19-39-4, §19-39-5, §19-39-6, and §19-39-7, relating to the creation of the Agricultural Right to Repair Act; promoting farmer repair choice and competition by requiring manufacturers of agriculture equipment to make available to owners and independent repair providers, on fair and reasonable terms, the documentation, parts, and tools used to diagnose, maintain, and repair such equipment; effective date"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Young, Pushkin and Lewis:

H. B. 2848 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §24-2-17a, relating to requiring that utility providers instigate text communications concerning utility outages"; to the Committee on Energy and Public Works.

By Delegate Young:

H. B. 2849 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §5-32-1, §5-32-2, §5-32-3, §5-32-4, §5-32-5, §5-32-6, §5-32-7, §5-32-8, §5-32-9, §5-32-10, §5-32-11, §5-32-12, §5-32-13, and §5-32-14, relating to retirement; establishing the West Virginia Secure Choice retirement program; providing for civil penalties; providing definitions; establishing a trust and administrative fund; establishing responsibilities of covered employers; providing a board of directors and their duties; clarifying standard of care and liability; providing ability for assistance from other states; transferring and appropriating money; and providing time frames for start of operation"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegates Young, Lewis, Pushkin and Hansen:

H. B. 2850 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §21-5J-1, §21-5J-2, §21-5J-3, §21-5J-4, §21-5J-5, §21-5J-6, §21-5J-7, §21-5J-8, §21-5J-9, and §21-5J-10, relating to creating a paid parental leave pilot program; providing findings and purpose; definitions; paid parental leave and requirements for claiming benefits; requiring employer to continue group health insurance coverage for employee; employment benefits and seniority position upon return from leave; benefits not to accrue during period of leave; employers required to respond to survey to Department of Labor; requiring department to report to Joint Committee on Government Organization; authorizing emergency rulemaking authority; and providing December 31, 2028, sunset"; to the Committee on Government Organization then Finance.

By Delegate Young:

H. B. 2851 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §46A-1-102 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; and to add a new section thereto, designated §46A-2-141; relating to requiring businesses to obtain a consumer's express affirmative consent to automatic renewal or continuous service offers; providing definitions; and setting requirements for notice to consumers regarding affirmative consent"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Young and Lewis:

H. B. 2852 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §5-16E-1, §5-16E-2, §5-16E-3, §5-16E-4, §5-16E-5, §5-16E-6, §5-16E-7, §5-16E-8, §5-16E-9, §5-16E-10, §5-16E-11, §5-16E-12, §5-16E-13, §5-16E-14, §5-16E-15, §5-16E-16, §5-16E-17, and §5-16E-18, relating to establishing a state-sponsored portable insurance benefit plan, providing definitions, and providing for administration and assignment of benefits"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegates Young and Hansen:

H. B. 2853 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by inserting a new article, designated §16-67-1, §16-67-2, §16-67-3, and §16-67-4; relating to providing for a right to contraception; setting definitions; and providing for a cause of action"; to the Committee on Health and Human Resources then the Judiciary.

By Delegates Young, Pushkin and Lewis:

H. B. 2854 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §60A-2-204 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to removing certain substances from schedule I of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, including marihuana, Psilocybin, and Tetrahydrocannabinols"; to the Committee on Health and Human Resources then the Judiciary.

By Delegates Statler, Ellington and Toney:

H. B. 2855 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §18B-4-11, relating to providing a definition to comply with the federal definition of a 'first generation' status for college admission"; to the Committee on Education.

By Delegates Linville and Hillenbrand:

H. B. 2856 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §31G-6-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to pre-emption for broadband services and providing for the installation of fiber optics on property with conservation easements"; to the Committee on Energy and Public Works.

By Delegates Hansen and Williams:

H. B. 2857 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §21-3F-1, §21-3F-2, §21-3F-3, §21-3F-4, §21-3F-5, §21-3F-6, §21-3F-7, and §21-3F-8, relating to creating the Workplace Bullying Accountability Act; definitions; safeguarding the workplace; employer's duty not to retaliate; employee remedies; and preservation of rights"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegate Hansen:

H. B. 2858 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §7-1-3 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to county commissions; and clarifying the authority of counties to regulate floodplains under the NFIP regulations"; to the Committee on Government Organization.

By Delegate Young:

H. B. 2859 - "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, and §47-29-4, relating to menstrual product labeling; providing for definitions; providing for a plain and conspicuous list of ingredients; creating labeling requirement in addition to other regulations; and providing for a civil penalty"; to the Committee on Health and Human Resources then the Judiciary.

By Delegate Young:

H. B. 2860 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §55-22-1, §55-22-2, §55-22-3, §55-22-4, §55-22-5, §55-22-6, §55-22-7, §55-22-8, §55-22-9, and §55-22-10, relating to permitting civil remedies for the unauthorized disclosure of intimate images; providing for a short title; defining terms; providing for a civil action; providing exceptions to liability; providing for plaintiff's privacy; providing for remedies; creating a statute of limitations; providing for construction; providing for uniformity of application and construction; and addressing the effective date"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Young, Pushkin and Lewis:

H. B. 2861 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto six new sections, designated §5-16-15a, §33-15-4y, §33-16-3ii, §33-24-7z, §33-25-8w, §33-25A-8z; and to amend said code by adding a new article, designated §33-57A-1, §33-57A-2, §33-57A-3, §33-57A-4, and §33-57A-5, relating to creating the Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders Insurance Coverage Protection Act; requiring certain insurance policies to provide coverage for medically necessary treatment of mental health and substance use disorders; defining terms; mandating generally accepted standards be followed when making medical necessity determinations; and prohibiting discretionary clauses"; to the Committee on Health and Human Resources then Finance.

By Delegates T. Clark, Canterbury, Browning, DeVault, Jennings, Roop, Heckert, Moore, Dittman, Drennan and Adkins:

H. B. 2862 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §17-16D-6 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to exempting certain emergency service vehicles from the payment of tolls"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegates Brooks, Clay, Maynor, Roop, Toney and Flanigan:

H. B. 2863 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §7-14-13 of the Code of West Virginia, related to clarifying a sheriff's authority to hire within their own office"; to the Committee on Government Organization.

By Delegates Sheedy, Rohrbach, Ferrell, Eldridge, Parsons, Cooper and Hillenbrand:

H. B. 2864 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section designated §9A-1-17, relating to creating a poster providing contact information and resource information on veteran benefits and services; clarifying employers required to display the poster; and clarifying how to display the poster"; to the Committee on Government Organization.

By Delegates Hornby, Maynor, Funkhouser, Street, J. Cannon, Akers, Holstein and Chiarelli:

H. B. 2865 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §61-2-3, §61-11-8, and §62-12-13 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to parole eligibility; modifying eligibility for the crimes of murder in the second degree; modifying the parole eligibility for inmates serving life sentences

and those who have been convicted of first degree murder; and modifying eligibility for attempted crimes of murder in the first and second degree"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegate Burkhammer:

H. B. 2866 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §7-17-12 and §8-13-13 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to fees and charges for municipality provided fire services; and providing that residents or businesses situate outside municipal boundaries may not be required to pay fire service fees simultaneously to a municipality or county commission"; to the Committee on Government Organization.

By Delegates Roop, Drennan, Marple, Foggin, Pritt, Cooper, Brooks, Rohrbach, Kump, Canterbury and Maynor:

H. B. 2867 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §44-1A-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to precluding an estate with real property from being processed as a small estate"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Funkhouser, Hornby and Horst:

H. B. 2868 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §11A-5-1, §11A-5-2, and §11A-5-3, relating to prohibiting counties and municipalities from double-taxing residential rental properties in order to keep rent payments affordable for West Virginia residents"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegates Funkhouser, Hornby, W. Clark, J. Cannon, Holstein, Masters, Hillenbrand, Mallow, Horst, Roop and Marple:

H. B. 2869 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §62-1C-1a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to requiring that judicial officers consider the residency status of a person charged with a criminal violation in determining bail and conditions of pretrial release"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Funkhouser, Hornby, J. Cannon, Holstein, Masters, W. Clark, Chiarelli, Hillenbrand, Mallow, Horst and Roop:

H. B. 2870 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §17C-5-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to correcting the issue of a fleeing DUI not being considered a DUI offense"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Funkhouser, Hornby, Holstein, Masters, W. Clark, J. Cannon, Chiarelli, Hillenbrand, Mallow, Horst and Roop:

H. B. 2871 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §17C-5-1 and §61-2-30 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to serious traffic offenses and crimes against the person; renaming the crime of negligent homicide; creating new crimes; clarifying a victim includes an embryo or fetus; and creating criminal penalties"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegate Holstein:

H. B. 2872 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §3-5-7 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to requiring immediate verification of partisan election candidates' party affiliation; providing that the Secretary of State shall, upon receipt of certificates of announcements, also verify the residency and correct district of each prospective candidate; and giving individuals seeking to run for public office a 10-day right to appeal to the Supreme Court of Appeals the decisions of the Secretary of State not to verify the potential candidates' certificates of announcements"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Holstein, Martin, Chiarelli and Kump:

H. B. 2873 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §36-1-21a, relating to the prohibition of certain foreign ownership of land in this state"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Holstein, J. Cannon and Hornby:

H. B. 2874 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §18-2-9 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to requiring that any student in the 11th or 12th grade, who has been placed in a 'free' or 'teacher-assistant' period or class, be informed of online college course opportunities available for them"; to the Committee on Education.

By Delegates Holstein, Chiarelli and Hornby:

H. B. 2875 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new article, designated §18B-2D-1, relating to establishing the American Campuses Act; prohibiting foreign missions of Foreign Countries of Risk to state higher education institutions; prohibiting involvement with any Foreign Government-Sponsored Talent Recruitment Program of a Foreign Country of Risk; and setting forth reporting requirements for state institutions of higher education"; to the Committee on Education.

By Delegates Horst, Dean, Crouse, Cooper, DeVault, Mallow, Hornby, Brooks, Maynor, Masters and Jeffries:

H. B. 2876 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §20-1-16 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to increasing the number of members on the Natural Resources Commission and specifying that they be wildlife biologists"; to the Committee on Government Organization.

By Delegates Pritt and T. Clark:

H. B. 2877 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §11-3-1 and §11-5-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, and to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new article, designated §17A-3B-1, relating to streamlining the process of personal property assessment by requiring the Division of Motor Vehicles to provide the Tax Assessor with records of all personal property that the Division of Motor Vehicles maintains"; to the Committee on Government Organization then Finance.

By Delegates Holstein, Dillon and Chiarelli:

H. B. 2878 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §17-4-8 and §31-2A-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to use of state road for rail crossing; requiring cooperation between the rail company and the Division of Highways when construction or maintenance activities are conducted by the company; and requiring railroad companies to provide alternative entry and exit ways in certain circumstances"; to the Committee on Energy and Public Works.

By Delegates Holstein, J. Cannon and Hornby:

H. B. 2879 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new article, designated §18C-10-1, §18C-10-2, §18C-10-3, and §18C-10-4, relating to the creation of the West Virginia Math & Science Teacher Scholarship Act; providing for a short title; providing for legislative findings and purpose; establishing the West Virginia Math & Science Teacher Scholarship Act; and setting forth the amount of scholarship money to be paid to educators who satisfy the thresholds; setting forth criteria and creating a sunset provision"; to the Committee on Education then Finance.

By Delegates Burkhammer, Kimble, Mazzocchi and Pinson:

H. B. 2880 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §49-1-201 and §49-4-405 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to defining parent resource navigators"; to the Committee on Health and Human Resources.

By Delegates Burkhammer, Pinson, Kimble and Mazzocchi:

H. B. 2881 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §15-2-15 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to the Child Abuse and Neglect Investigations Unit; expanding the number of members in the unit; expanding the number of regional members to assist CPS; providing retired members of the State Police the ability to be part of the unit; and establishing requirements to be followed when reemploying a retired State Police officer"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Sheedy, Eldridge, Flanigan, Stephens, Roop and Chiarelli:

H. B. 2882 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §8-10-2b and §17B-3-3a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, all relating to providing a municipal court clerk the ability to suspend the driver's license if a person has failed to enter into a payment plan or pay towards his or her of costs, fines, forfeitures, restitution, or penalties in a certain time period following judgment"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates W. Clark, Funkhouser, Pritt, Stephens, Shamblin, Ferrell, Chiarelli and Hite:

H. B. 2883 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new article designated §16-9H-1 and §16-9H-2, relating to the creation of an ENDS product directory; regulating the distribution and sale of ENDS products sold for retail sale; requiring manufacturers to apply for market authorization from the United States Food and Drug Administration prior to the sale of ENDS products; providing manufacturers notice and the opportunity to be heard before removal from the directory; prohibiting the sale in this state of ENDS products not listed on the directory; requiring unannounced compliance checks for retailers and wholesalers of ENDS products; prescribing fines and penalties; requiring foreign manufacturers to designate an agent for service of process; designating the Secretary of State as an agent for service of process for resident manufacturers; and providing enforcement and rulemaking authority to the Alcohol Beverage Control Administration Commissioner"; to the Committee on Health and Human Resources then the Judiciary.

By Delegates Street, Bridges, Dillon and Chiarelli:

H. B. 2884 - "A Bill to repeal §11-6J-3 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, relating to the ad valorem property valuation of specialized high-technology property"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegates Stephens, Willis, T. Clark, Lucas, Barnhart, Chiarelli, Hillenbrand, DeVault, Ferrell, Leavitt and Brooks:

H. B. 2885 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §5-10-15a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to allowing all members of the West Virginia Public Employees Retirement system apply unused sick leave to retirement credit"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegates Shamblin, Hall and Kelly:

H. B. 2886 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §8-15-4, §8-15-8a, and §8-15-11 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to allowing municipalities to exempt fire chiefs from civil service protection by ordinance so that the mayor or council (depending on city ordinances and charter) may appoint the fire chief in the same manner that municipal police chiefs are selected"; to the Committee on Government Organization.

By Delegates Hansen, Lewis, Williams, Garcia, Hornbuckle, Young, Pushkin, Fluharty and Hamilton:

H. B. 2887 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §16A-17-1, §16A-17-2, §16A-17-3, §16A-17-4, §16A-17-5, §16A-17-6, §16A-17-7, §16A-17-8, and §16A-17-9, relating to legalizing cannabis production, sales, and adult consumption; providing legislative purpose and findings; defining terms; legalizing the possession of one ounce or less of cannabis and cannabis products by adults; authorizing production, sales, transfer, and transport of cannabis upon passing county referendums; providing procedure for county commissions to authorize county referendum on legislation of production and sales; establishing mechanisms for permitting and licensing production and sales facilities by the Bureau for Public Health and localities; authorizing the Bureau of Public Health to propose legislative rules, establish licensing and administrative penalties relating to the production, sales, transfer, and transport cannabis in authorizing counties; authorizing the Department of Revenue to promulgate rules and administer tax collections; authorizing localities to regulate manufacturing and sales locations; authorizing a special excise tax on cannabis; creating a new fund and dedicating proceeds of the fund; authorizing county local sales tax to be collected and used for the benefit of county and municipal governments; providing current laws relating to employment, vehicle operation, underage use or private property use preserved; and that the operation of this article is not intended to alter West Virginia Medical Cannabis Act"; to the Committee on the Judiciary then Finance.

By Delegates T. Clark, Moore, Jennings, DeVault, Dittman, Drennan, Barnhart, Foggin, Adkins, Browning and Bridges:

H. B. 2888 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §17-2A-8 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating generally to road maintenance and repair"; to the Committee on Energy and Public Works.

By Delegates Criss and Barnhart:

H. B. 2889 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §32-4-402a, relating to authorizing the Commissioner of the State Auditor of West Virginia, or his or her designee, to conduct a fairness hearing for transactions involving the exchange of a security for one or more outstanding securities, claims or property interests or partly for cash, to determine whether the terms and conditions of the exchange are fair to the security holders participating in the exchange, which would allow the parties in the exchange to seek to qualify the exchange as exempt from registration under Section 3(a)(1) of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. § 77c(a)(10); providing definitions; providing for an application process to set fairness hearings; proscribing timelines for the Commissioner, or his or her designee, to issue decisions; proscribing notice requirements; proscribing filing fees and investigation fee caps; and authorizing the Commissioner of the State Auditor of West Virginia to promulgate rules necessary to carry out the provisions of this section"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegates Toney and Vance:

H. B. 2890 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §18-5-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to clarifying county boards of education members' compensation rate"; to the Committee on Education.

By Delegates Shamblin, Hall and Kelly:

H. B. 2891 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §18-2-7h, relating to requiring high school students to complete community service hours as a prerequisite to graduation"; to the Committee on Education.

By Delegates Shamblin, Hall, Chiarelli, Heckert and Akers:

H. B. 2892 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §17C-13-9, relating to prohibiting pedestrians from standing in roadways or right of ways"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegate Shamblin:

H. B. 2893 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §62-11A-1b, relating to establishing the Second Look Sentencing Act; and providing a procedure for modification of a prison sentence when a person has served at least 10 years of a sentence"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Ridenour, Butler, Ward, Jennings, Hillenbrand, Mallow, Kimble, Maynor, Phillips and Akers:

H. B. 2894 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §61-14-1, §61-14-2, and §61-14-7 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to human trafficking, adding a definition for 'illegal alien'; general provisions and penalties; and providing that illegal aliens are not eligible for restitution"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Amos, Hornby and Browning:

H. B. 2895 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §11-1C-1a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to requiring that the assessed value of any item of tangible machinery and equipment personal property used in business activity, tangible inventory personal property directly used in business activity and personal motor vehicles at \$0"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegates Pritt and T. Clark:

H. B. 2896 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §3-1-16, §3-5-13a, §3-10-3 and §21-4-3 the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to requiring Public Service Commission's commissioners be elected to positions; providing for election of commissioners beginning in 2026; requiring commissioners to be included on the ballot; establishing procedure for vacancy in office of commissioner; and establishing requirements for commissioners"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Ellington, Statler, Hornby, Crouse, Willis, Dittman, Toney and Campbell:

H. B. 2897 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §18-2-46; relating to requiring the Legislative Auditor to conduct periodic performance and financial audits of the West Virginia Department of Education; granting the Legislative Auditor the power and authority to conduct examinations and inspections; requiring the Legislative Auditor to protect the confidentiality, privacy, and security of protected information; and establishing deadline for initial performance and financial audit and reporting requirements"; to the Committee on Education then Government Organization.

By Delegate Burkhammer:

H. B. 2898 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §7-1-3 and §7-1-3d of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; and to repeal §7-17-1, §7-17-2, §7-17-3, §7-17-4, §7-17-5, §7-17-6, §7-17-7, §7-17-8, §7-17-9, §7-17-10, §7-17-11, §7-17-12,, §7-17-13, §7-17-14, §7-17-15, §7-17-16, §7-17-17, §7-17-18, §7-17-19, and §7-17-20, all relating fire departments within a county and county fire boards; granting administrative control of fire departments within a county to the county commission of that county when they are not already under administrative control of a municipal corporation; and abolishing county fire boards"; to the Committee on Government Organization.

By Delegate G. Howell:

H. B. 2899 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §5B-2-22, relating to creating a legislative oversight committee on aviation development; stating the purposes of the oversight committee; establishing the composition of the oversight committee; establishing duties of the oversight committee; requiring reporting to the Legislature; authorizing the oversight committee to contract with experts; and authorizing cooperation of the oversight committee with the Department of Economic Development and Division of Multimodal Transportation Facilities"; to the Committee on Government Organization.

By Delegates Young, Hansen and Lewis:

H. B. 2900 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article, designated §16-2S-1, §16-2S-2, §16-2S-3, §16-2S-4, §16-2S-5, §16-2S-6, §16-2S-7, §16-2S-8, §16-2S-9, §16-2S-10, §16-2S-11, §16-2S-12, §16-2S-13, §16-2S-14, §16-2S-15, §16-2S-16, §16-2S-17, §16-2S-18, §16-2S-19, and §16-2S-20, relating to establishing the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Benefits Act; defining terms; detailing eligibility requirements; declaring the duration of benefits authorized by the article; noting the amount of benefits; specifying contributions; setting certain requirements and entitlements under the article; protecting against certain adverse action for exercising certain rights under the article; prohibiting retaliation or discrimination under the article; declaring the article to run concurrently with other leave-related laws; requiring employers to provide certain notice; detailing the process for enforcing the article; addressing erroneous payments and disqualification; permitting self-employed persons to elect coverage with certain requirements; requiring the Insurance Commissioner to establish the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program; requiring certain disclosures related to federal income tax; creating the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Account Fund; authorizing certain expenditures from the fund and investments of the fund; requiring annual reports to the Legislature; requiring the Insurance Commissioner to implement a public education program; encouraging the Insurance Commissioner to use state data collection and technology to integrate the program with other state policies; authorizing legislative rules by a certain date; and setting an internal effective date"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegates Young and Holstein:

H. B. 2901 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §3-6-9 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to requiring that the boards of canvassers transmit electronically to the Secretary of State, on a form prescribed by the Secretary of State, the total ballots cast, counted, and rejected"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegate Young:

H. B. 2902 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §5-11-3 and §5-11-10 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to actions for discriminatory practices before the human rights commission; providing that certain employers with two or more employees are subject to the article; including an individual who provides work for an employer under the terms of an independent contract with the employer in the definition of 'employee'; and increasing the time period in which to bring an action before the human rights commission to three years after the alleged act of discrimination"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Young, Pushkin and Lewis:

H. B. 2903 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §37-6-32, relating to prohibiting convenience fees for tenants of rental properties"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Young and Lewis:

H. B. 2904 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §18-5-44 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to early childhood education programs; and providing that funds from the Lottery Education Fund, the State Lottery fund, and the Excess Lottery Fund be used for childhood education in the state"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegates Young and Lewis:

H. B. 2905 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §29-3A-4 and §61-2-10b of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; relating to crimes against law enforcement, firefighters, governmental representatives, health care providers, utility workers, correctional employees, and emergency medical service personnel; creating a felony offense for attacking or hindering or obstructing a firefighter or emergency equipment; and creating criminal penalties"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegate Young:

H. B. 2906 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding two new sections, designated §33-15-4a and §33-16-3a, relating to insurance; and providing health insurance coverage for scalp cooling systems for the preservation of hair during cancer chemotherapy treatment"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegates Young and Hansen:

H. B. 2907 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §61-6-21 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to prohibiting civil rights violations based on disability, gender identity, or sexual orientation; criminal penalties; when evidence of constitutionally protected speech or associations is not admissible in criminal prosecutions; exceptions; providing for sentencing alternatives for persons convicted of violations; and designating amendments to this section as 'Angel's Law'; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Young, Pushkin, Hansen and Lewis:

H. B. 2908 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §22C-1-6a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to powers of the Water Development Authority; removing power to fund infrastructure projects recommended by the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Economic Development and/or the Secretary of Tourism; and providing that funding may only be used for in-state eligible projects"; to the Committee on Energy and Public Works then Finance.

By Delegate Young:

H. B. 2909 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §62-1A-12, relating to requiring a warrant for the disclosure of certain third-party information"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Young, Pushkin and Lewis:

H. B. 2910 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §62-11A-1b, relating to establishing the Second Look Sentencing Act; providing a procedure for modification of a prison sentence when a person has served at least 10 years of a sentence"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Young and Lewis:

H. B. 2911 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §29-21-13a, §44-10-14 and §49-4-601 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; relating to compensation of a guardian ad litem in cases involving the West Virginia Public Defender Services; relating to requirements and rates of

compensation for a guardian ad litem in a minor settlement proceeding; and relating to continuing education requirements of Guardians Ad Litem"; to the Committee on the Judiciary then Finance.

By Delegate Young:

H. B. 2912 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §33-15-24, relating to providing insurance coverage for GLP-1 class medications with a valid script"; to the Committee on Health and Human Resources then Finance.

By Delegates Young, Hansen and Lewis:

H. B. 2913 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §11-21-98; and to repeal §61-8B-16 of said code, relating to authorizing a refundable child or childcare tax credit"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegates Young and Lewis:

H. B. 2914 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §17A-3-23 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing municipal fire departments specialized license plates"; to the Committee on Energy and Public Works.

By Delegates Young and Lewis:

H. B. 2915 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §17-16A-31, relating to exempting school buses from paying toll fees"; to the Committee on Education then Finance.

By Delegates Young and Lewis:

H. B. 2916 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by amending said code by adding by adding a new section, designated §11-21-98, relating generally to prohibiting tax preparation software companies from charging a fee for electronically filing State tax returns"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegate Young:

H. B. 2917 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §48-2-301 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to changing the age of consent for marriages"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegate Young:

H. B. 2918 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §5-16-33, relating to creating the Men's Equality Act; and requiring 100 percent coverage under the West Virginia Public Employees Insurance plan for voluntary male sterilization"; to the Committee on Health and Human Resources then Finance.

By Delegates Young and Lewis:

H. B. 2919 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §3-5-7 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to creating an online voters' guide; requiring all information in the certificate of announcement; permitting candidates running for statewide office to submit a personal statement; directing the State Election Committee to create the guide; and requiring the Secretary of State post the voters' guide on its website"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegate Young:

H. B. 2920 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §11-15-9v, relating to the exemption of certain hygiene products from sales tax"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegate Young:

H. B. 2921 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §15A-4-13 and §49-2-906 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; and to amend said code by adding a new section, designated §28-5C-3; relating to requiring that free feminine hygiene products be provided to female prisoners in jails, regional jails or state correctional facilities and female juveniles in juvenile detention"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegates Hite, Statler, Kyle, Jennings, Ward, Dean, Vance, Miller, Burkhammer and Hott:

H. B. 2922 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, to add 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"; to the Committee on Government Organization then Finance.

By Delegates Canterbury, Cooper, Amos, Pritt, Campbell, Marple, Stephens, Mazzocchi, Rohrbach, Roop and T. Clark:

H. B. 2923 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §17-4-56, relating to requiring the Commissioner of Highways to include rumble strips on double-yellow lined highways when upgrading"; to the Committee on Energy and Public Works.

By Delegates Canterbury, Zatezalo, Marple, Gearheart, Stephens, Kump, Mazzocchi, Hillenbrand, Linville, Rohrbach and Eldridge:

H. B. 2924 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §55-2-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended and to repeal §55-2-3 of the code, all relating to abolishing the right to obtain title to land by adverse possession"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Chiarelli, Heckert, McCormick, Shamblin, Ferrell, Criss, Hornby, Rohrbach, Ridenour and Maynor:

H. B. 2925 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §61-6-26, relating to unlawful panhandling and solicitation; exempting fire departments; and providing misdemeanor penalties"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Delegates Pritt, Stephens and Clay:

H. B. 2926 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §18A-3-3a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to removing all fees associated with teacher licensure, certification, and registering the completion of continuing education credit hours"; to the Committee on Education.

By Delegates Pritt and Stephens:

H. B. 2927 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §18-2-5 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the State Board of Education to implement a two year county pilot program to change the school week from five eight-hour days to four 10-hour days"; to the Committee on Education.

By Delegates Hornbuckle, Hanshaw (Mr. Speaker), Riley, Fluharty, Young, Hamilton, Garcia, Lewis, Hansen, Pushkin and Fehrenbacher:

H. B. 2928 - "A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new article, designated §11-13NN-1, relating to creating 'The Young Professional Tax Credits'

for student loans; and allowing tax credits for student loans for graduates between ages 18 and 40, together with a refundable child care credit"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegate Canterbury:

H. B. 2929 - "A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section, designated §18-5-52, relating to banning calculators and math computational devices from K-8 grade classrooms."; to the Committee on Education.

By Delegates Pritt and Stephens:

H. B. 2930 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §18-7A-38 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to the number of days a retired teacher may accept employment; and permitting employment beyond 140 days under specific conditions"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Delegates Pritt and Stephens:

H. B. 2931 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §18-5-45 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to establishing a mandated monthly half day for students to allow for school staff planning time"; to the Committee on Education.

By Delegates Pritt and Stephens:

H. B. 2932 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §18-3-9 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to setting the number of associate state superintendent of schools positions to one instead of the current number of two"; to the Committee on Education.

By Delegates Pritt, Canterbury, Stephens and Crouse:

H. B. 2933 - "A Bill a bill to amend and reenact §18-3-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to basing the annual salary of the state superintendent of schools on the average of the salaries of similar positions in the five states that border West Virginia"; to the Committee on Education then Finance.

By Delegates Pritt, Fehrenbacher, Barnhart, Dittman, Chiarelli, Shamblin, D. Cannon, Hornbuckle, Holstein, W. Clark and Willis:

H. B. 2934 - "A Bill to amend and reenact §49-2-129 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to aftercare services for foster children; and requiring the department prioritize housing applications for foster children who have turned 18 years of age"; to the Committee on Health and Human Resources.

Special Calendar

Third Reading

Com. Sub. for H. B. 2053, Relating to including the United States Space Force in the definition armed forces; on third reading, coming up in regular order, was read a third time.

The question being on the passage of the bill, the yeas and nays were taken (**Roll No. 008**), and there were—yeas 97, nays 1, absent and not voting 2, with the nays and the absent and not voting being as follows:

Nays: Ridenour.

Absent and Not Voting: Bridges and Green.

So, a majority of the members present having voted in the affirmative, the Speaker declared the bill (Com. Sub. for H. B. 2053) passed.

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

Second Reading

Com. Sub. for H. B. 2042, Relating to allowing a guardian ad litem to request the appointment of a court appointed special advocate; on second reading, coming up in regular order, was read a second time and ordered to engrossment and third reading,

Com. Sub. for H. B. 2066, Creating a crime for the destruction of first responder equipment.; on second reading, coming up in regular order, was read a second time,

On motion of Delegates Drennan and Akers the Committee Substitute was amended on page 1, section 60, line 15, after the words "this code" by inserting the words "and shall additionally include any entity of a political subdivision of the state providing emergency services pursuant to the provisions of §15-5-8 of this code and any county commission, political subdivision, or county 911 public safety answering point"

And

On page 2, section 60, line 17, after the words "this code" by inserting the words "and shall additionally include disaster response activities and emergency services as those terms are defined in §15-5-2 of this code and activities of a county commission, political subdivision, or county 911 public safety answering point in providing emergency responder services".

The bill was then ordered to engrossment and third reading.

And,

Com. Sub. for H. B. 2363, Clarifying the groups of persons to whom the criminal prohibitions related to child pornography are inapplicable when such persons are performing their official or employment duties; on second reading, coming up in regular order, was read a second time and ordered to engrossment and third reading,

First Reading

The following bills on first reading, coming up in regular order, were each read a first time and ordered to second reading:

Com. Sub. for H. B. 2354, Banning certain products from food in West Virginia.

Leaves of Absence

At the request of Delegate McGeehan, and by unanimous consent, leaves of absence for the day were granted Delegates Bridges and Green.

Miscellaneous Business

Pursuant to House Rule 94b, forms were filed with the Clerk's Office to be added as a cosponsor of the following:

H. B. 2170: Delegate Funkhouser;

H. B. 2146: Delegate Horst;

H. B. 2354: Delegate Horst;

H. B. 2409: Delegates Anders and White;

H. B. 2477: Delegate T. Howell;

H. B. 2628: Delegate Heckert;

And,

H. B. 2736: Delegate Kyle.

Pursuant to House Rule 94b, a form was filed with the Clerk's Office to be removed as a cosponsor of the following:

H. B. 2480: Delegate Browning;

And,

H. B. 2794: Delegate Pritt.

At 11:37 a.m., the House of Delegates adjourned until 11:00 a.m., Tuesday, February 25, 2025.

**HOUSE OF DELEGATES
JEFFREY PACK, Clerk
Building 1, Room M-212
1900 Kanawha Blvd., East
Charleston, WV 25305-0470**

SPECIAL CALENDAR

Tuesday, February 25, 2025

14th Day

11:00 A.M.

THIRD READING

- Com. Sub. for H. B. 2042 - Relating to allowing a guardian ad litem to request the appointment of a court appointed special advocate
- Com. Sub. for H. B. 2066 - Creating a crime for the destruction of first responder equipment.
- Com. Sub. for H. B. 2363 - Clarifying the groups of persons to whom the criminal prohibitions related to child pornography are inapplicable when such persons are performing their official or employment duties

SECOND READING

- Com. Sub. for H. B. 2354 - Banning certain products from food in West Virginia

FIRST READING

- Com. Sub. for H. B. 2047 - Prohibiting cameras and recording devices in bedrooms and bathrooms of foster children
- Com. Sub. for H. B. 2123 - Modifying the criminal penalties imposed on a parent, guardian or custodian for child abuse
- Com. Sub. for H. B. 2170 - Allowing volunteer fire departments to use fire protection funding for certain purchases

HOUSE CALENDAR

Tuesday, February 25, 2025

14th Day

11:00 A.M.

NO BILLS

WEST VIRGINIA HOUSE OF DELEGATES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2024

HOUSE CONVENES AT 11:00 A.M.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

9:00 A.M. – FINANCE COMMITTEE ROOM 460M

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

9:00 A.M. – JUDICIARY COMMITTEE ROOM 410M

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

10:00 A.M. – JUDICIARY COMMITTEE ROOM 410M

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION

1:00 P.M. – GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE ROOM 215E

SUBCOMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

2:00 P.M. – GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE ROOM 215E

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

3:00 P.M. – HEALTH COMMITTEE ROOM 215E

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH

4:00 P.M. – HEALTH COMMITTEE ROOM 215E

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

1:00 P.M. EDUCATION COMMITTEE ROOM

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND PUBLIC WORKS

3:00 P.M. – FINANCE COMMITTEE ROOM 460M

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT INFRASTRUCTURE AND TECHNOLOGY

1:00 P.M. - McMANUS ROOM 252 (ROADS/BRIDGE NAMING)

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT INFRASTRUCTURE AND TECHNOLOGY

6:00 P.M. – FINANCE COMMITTEE ROOM 460M

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