



# West Virginia Senate

## Committee on Education

Minutes for March 09, 2026, 9:43 AM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Senate Committee on Education met on March 09, 2026, 9:43 AM in Room 451-M.

Members present: Senators Grady, Clements, Azinger, Barnhart, Bartlett, Deeds, Fuller, Oliverio, Roberts, Tarr, Taylor, Garcia

Members absent: Senator Hart

A silent roll call being taken, the presence of a quorum was established.

On motion of Vice-Chair Clements, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

**HB5438** To modify the foundation allowance to improve instructional programs was discussed.

Hank Hager, Counsel, explained the bill, the purpose of the committee amendment, and responded to questions.

With leave of the committee, Drew McClanahan, Legislative and Policy Officer for the West Virginia Department of Education, responded to questions.

Vice-Chair Clements moved the amendment as explained by Counsel.

On motion of Senator Tarr, the committee amended the amendment to strike lines 125-127 of the bill.

The question being on the amendment as amended, the same was put and prevailed.

On motion of Vice-Chair Clements, the committee reported the bill to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass, as amended, but under the original double committee reference first be referred to the Committee on Finance.

**HB4087** To create a West Virginia-Ireland Education Alliance was discussed.

Hank Hager, Counsel, explained the bill.

On motion of Vice-Chair Clements, the committee reported the bill to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass but under the original double committee reference first be referred to the Committee on Finance.

**HB5163** Relating to exempting child-care programs operated by a county board of education exclusively for the children of its employees from certain licensing requirements was discussed.

Hank Hager, Counsel, explained the bill.

On motion of Vice-Chair Clements, the committee reported the bill to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass but under the original double committee reference first be referred to the Committee on Finance.

**HB5453** To modify the school aid funding formula was discussed.

Hank Hager, Counsel, explained the bill, the purpose of the committee amendment, and responded to questions.

With leave of the committee, Drew McClanahan, Legislative and Policy Officer for the West Virginia Department of Education, responded to questions.

Vice-Chair Clements moved the amendment as explained by Counsel.

Senator Garcia moved to amend the amendment by changing the effective dates for the supplemental funding on Page 2, §18-9A-27(b) and §18-9A-27(c), from “2027-2028” to “2026-2027”.

The question being on the amendment to the amendment, a division of the body was demanded. The vote being 5 in favor and 6 opposed, the same was put and rejected.

The question being on the amendment as explained by Counsel, the same was put and prevailed.

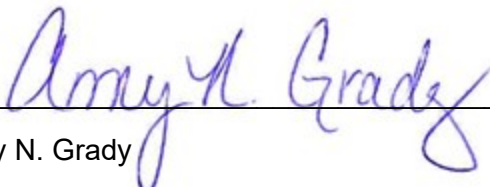
On motion of Vice-Chair Clements, the committee reported the bill to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass, as amended, but under the original double committee reference first be referred to the Committee on Finance.


**HB5511** To allow money to be paid to county board of education employees’ estates for accrued and unused leave if they pass away before retirement was discussed.

Hank Hager, Counsel, explained the bill and responded to questions.

On motion of Vice-Chair Clements, the committee reported the bill to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass but under the original double committee reference first be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion of Vice-Chair Clements, the committee adjourned.

  
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Amy N. Grady  
Chair

  
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Benjamin Mack  
Clerk