



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE 2/1/2019

West Virginia School Service Personnel Association

This has been a busy week in the West Virginia Legislature, but our main focus has been Senate Bill 451. Below is a recap of the bill and a listing of the changes made in the Senate Committee of the whole and amendments made on the Senate floor. SB 451 bill binds good and bad legislation into one bill "they" call education reform. We call this Education Retaliation.

The Good:

- Credit for sick days at retirement
- 5% pay increase for teachers and service personnel
- 1400 minimum enrollment for calculating state aid formula.

The Bad:

- Charter Schools: This would pull funds from Public Education
- Education Savings Account (ESA): This would again pull funds from Public Education
- Paycheck Protection: Eliminates payroll deduction
- Elimination of Seniority for RIF and Transfer
- No pay for school Employees during a work stoppage or strike
- All central office employees including administrators will be at will employees
- Increase county levy rates
- Open Enrollment within county and across counties

Amendments Made:

- Changes to the members of Charter School Governing Board
- Requiring a vote of the county residents before a levy rate is raised
- Placing a cap of \$150,000 family income to be eligible for ESA's
- Teacher's who miss fewer than 4 days in 200 day contract would receive a bonus

Where we stand now:

- ⇒ The SB 451 committee substitute has passed the Committee of the whole.
- ⇒ It has received the first reading in the Senate.
- ⇒ The second was conducted on Friday February 1, 2019.
- ⇒ The bill will advance to 3rd reading on Monday, February 4, 2019 and be voted on by the Senate
- ⇒ If it passes the senate it will be reported to the house.

We are asking our counties to do the following:

Your county president's have been sent authorization ballot. In Unity with the county leaders of AFT-WV and WVEA we are asking them to poll all teachers and service personnel, member and non-member. This ballot gives the state leadership of WVSSPA, AFT-WV and WVEA to call a statewide action. We will not determine the action or timing of the action without the input of our membership. The results of this poll should be kept confidential and presented at the Local Leadership (WVSSPA, AFT-WV & WVEA) Summit on February 9, 2019. This meeting is for county presidents of WVSSPA, AFT-WV and WVEA.

Join us on Facebook Live Every Tuesday, @ 5:30 for more info on the 2019 session.

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West Virginia School Service
Personnel Association
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For more information:

Please contact the office.
(304) 346-3544
Or
info@wvsspa.org

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Text Alerts

Throughout the session, WVSSPA will call on members to take action in order to uphold and protect §18-A privileges for service personnel.

Text "Join" to 304-224-2827

* Standard text messaging and data rates may apply