



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE 2/12/2019

West Virginia School Service Personnel Association

Wow! What a rollercoaster, we will try to bring everyone up to speed on the events of the last few days. House education passed an amended version of SB 451 late Friday night. On Monday House Finance attempted to undo the changes made by House Education in a marathon committee session. The House Finance Strike and Insert Amendment was defeated at 11:59pm last night. Below is a summary of the current state of Senate Bill 451, it received it's first reading on the House of Delegates floor 2/12/2019.

- 5% pay increase for teachers and service personnel
- \$2000 one time bonus for certified math teachers
- \$500 bonus for missing no more than 4 days (Teachers and Service Personnel)
- \$250 WV tax credit for school supplies (Teachers and Service Personnel)
- 1400 minimum enrollment for calculating state aid formula
- \$24 million for student support personnel (Professional staff, nurses, counselors and social workers)
- School Counselor's time with students at 80%
- \$5 million for innovation zones
- Charter Schools-Capped at 2 elementary schools. Can only be authorized by county board of education with a petition of a majority of parents and a petition of 50% of school employees.
- Seniority and evaluations considered for RIF and Transfer (Teachers Only)
- County administrators hired after July 2020 will be at will employees
- Increase county levy rates
- Open Enrollment within county and across counties
- Removes salary equity
- **Education Savings Account (ESA)-Removed**
- **Paycheck Protection-Removed**
- **No pay for school Employees during a work stoppage or strike-Removed**

While SB 451 has stolen the show this session there are other pieces of Legislation we are keeping an eye on.

Bad Legislation to watch

HB 2554-Open Enrollment across counties, would cause major strain on our bus drivers. This has passed the House but has not been put on the Agenda for Senate Education Committee. Similar to provisions in SB 451

HB 2011-Contract our state road jobs. No movement, this has not made it to committee yet.

Good Legislation to watch

HB 2392-Fixing PEIA premium cost sharing at no less than 80% for the employee and no more than 20% for the employee. No Movement

HB 2128-Allowing state employees to take paid leave to attend parent-teacher conferences. Passed the House and communicated to the Senate.

HB 3128-Mandatory cook to meal ratio at 110 meals per cook. Introduced and sent to House Education.

HB 3130-Bus Operator II after 5 years and Bus Operator III after 10 years. Introduced and sent to House Education

As you all know, we held our leadership summit this Saturday with leaders from WVSSPA, AFT-WV and WVEA. We had representation from all 55 counties, the leaders from each county reported the ballot totals of teachers and service personnel. There was overwhelming support to give state leadership the authorization to call for action, if needed. WVSSPA listens to our membership, no action will be called without input from our local leaders.

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

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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

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