

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE WEEK 5 (2/7/2020)

## WEST VIRGINIA SCHOOL SERVICE PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION

We are half way through the 2020 Legislative Session! Here are some important dates: 2/11/2020 is the last day to introduce bills in the House, 2/17/2020 is the last day to introduce bills in the Senate and 2/26/2020 is crossover day.

### Positive Legislation

- ⇒ **House Education Committee Originating Bill**– Requiring BOE’s to place a nurse or LPN in every school in West Virginia. **Passed the Education Committee and sent to Finance.**
- ⇒ **SB 661**-Replacing minimum minutes of instructional time required per day. This would make a day of instruction 5 hours per day and require school start on or after September 1st. **Introduced in the Senate.**
- ⇒ **HB 2719**-Bus driver in residency. Allowing counties to pay drivers for Bus Operator training with a commitment to work for that county for a specified time. **Passed the Education Committee and sent to Finance.**
- ⇒ **SB 241**-Requiring State BOE to develop a method for student transportation as a stand alone consideration. **Passed Senate and communicated to the house.**
- ⇒ **HB 4457**-Requiring air conditioning on all school buses. **Introduced in the House and sent to the committee on education.**
- ⇒ **HB 4579**-Relating to student aide class titles. Creating two assistant teaching positions for special education and student support through e-learning classes. Pay grade would be the same as ECCAT. **Introduced in the House and sent to the committee on education.**
- ⇒ **HB 4596**-Declaring a shortage of qualified bus operators and allowing retired bus operators to accept employment. **Introduced in the House and sent to the committee on education.**

### Negative Legislation

- ⇒ **HB 2425**-Defining the work day for service personnel. This bill would make service personnel work longer hours for no additional pay. For example, bus drivers would lose extra pay for midday runs. Aides could be rified and contracted to do bus duty with no over time pay. Bottom line service personnel lose pay. **This bill has not been placed back on the agenda, we may or may not see it again.**
- ⇒ **SB 616**-Relating to employment grievance procedure for public employees. Takes away many of the rights employees have in the grievance procedure including the amount of time to work on a grievance, your choice of representation and the employee would have to cover the cost of the grievance if it is lost. **Passed Senate Government Organization Committee sent to Judiciary.**
- ⇒ **Repeal of the Manufacturer’s Inventory Tax**-This is a high priority for the Senate leadership. This will remove \$100 million of revenue with no plan for replacement revenue. Two thirds of this revenue is used to fund education in West Virginia. The remaining funds go to counties and municipalities for essential public services.
- ⇒ **HJR 102**-Providing the WV Legislature rulemaking oversight of the State BOE. **Moved from the special calendar to the regular calendar stalling the bill.**
- ⇒ **SB 515**-Creating Education Savings Account Act. **No movement.**

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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.

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