

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE WEEK 6 (2/14/2020)

WEST VIRGINIA SCHOOL SERVICE PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION

Bills can no longer be introduced in the House. Monday the 17th is the last day to introduce bills in the Senate. All bills are due out of committee in house of origin on 2/23/2020 and 2/26/2020 is crossover day.

Positive Legislation

- ⇒ **HB 4649**-This legislation would provide training to all school employees to help students deal with trauma stemming from the Opioid Crisis. **Passed House Education and sent to House Finance.**
- ⇒ **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.**
- ⇒ **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.**
- ⇒ **SB 698**-Declaring a shortage of qualified bus operators and allowing retired bus operators to accept employment. Same legislation as HB4596. **Placed on the agenda of the Senate Committee on Pensions, then removed last minute. Hopefully this was a technical issue and we will see this legislation back on the agenda.**

Negative Legislation

- ⇒ **HB 4043**-Preventing state, county and municipal agencies from covering any portions of PEIA premiums for spouse. This legislation would have cost public employees thousands of dollars to maintain their spouse's insurance. **This bill was voted down in an 11-11 tie in the House Banking and Insurance Committee.**
- ⇒ **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 rifed 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.**

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