



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE 2/22/2019

West Virginia School Service Personnel Association

Senate Bill 451-After a #55Strong walkout this bill is dead!

Legislation to Watch

Bad Legislation

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. This bill currently sits in House Government Organization.

HB 3063-Tax credit of \$500 per child for home school or private school. This has passed House Education and headed to House Finance.

Originating House Education Bill-This would have allowed County Boards of Education to enter Executive Session when discussing a work stoppage or strike. This bill was presented on behalf of Ohio County BOE. **Thanks to quick work of the House Education Committee this bill was DOA-Dead on Arrival!**

Good Legislation

HB2730-Increasing salaries of WV State Police, Public School Teachers and School Service Personnel. This has passed the House and will communicated to the Senate.

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. Passed House Education headed to House Finance.

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

HB 2688-Requiring all buses to have air conditioning. Passed House Education headed to House Finance.

HB 2719-Establishing a Bus Driver in Residency program to assist school districts with inadequate substitute bus operator pools. Passed House Education headed to House Finance.

HB 2433-Changing the school year to begin no earlier than September 1 and end prior to May 31. This also includes a provision to reduce the 180 day mandatory school year to 170. This would not change 200 day contracts. This has passed House Education and has been read the first time on the House Floor.

PEIA-The Governor has promised \$150 million toward the funding of PEIA. This will be addressed in the Budget Bill, which is taken up the last week of the Legislative session. There are also several bills that address PEIA.

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

SB 630-Allows for the modification of the allocation of premiums for employers and employees in PEIA. This would allow for reduced premiums for employees during years with a surplus. No Movement

HB 2428-Creating a state administered wholesale drug importation program. This is a bipartisan bill that would lower the cost of prescription drugs in West Virginia. No Movement

SB 386 and HB 2584-Establishes a rainy day fund for PEIA with an initial investment of \$150 million. This would keep premiums and costs lower for plan participants.

We are finishing the 45th day of the Legislative Session. There are some very important deadlines that effect the rest of the process.

February 24, 2019-47th day, all bills are due out of committees in the house of origin to ensure 3 full days of reading.

February 27, 2019-50th day (crossover) Last day to consider bill on third reading in the house of origin. Does not include budget or supplementary appropriation bills.

March 9, 2019-Final day of the 2019 Legislative Session

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