



AFT-West Virginia 2015 Legislative Update

Friday, February 20, 2015

Senate Bill 14 - West Virginia Public Charter Schools Act

SB14: Sponsored by Senators Sypolt, Walters, Blair, Cole (Mr. President), Takubo

HB2014: Delegates Upson, Pasdon, Cowles, McCuskey, Hamrick, Ihle, Walters, Overington, Faircloth, Azinger

The Senate Education Committee passed a committee substitute to SB14, the WV Public Charter Schools Act, on a strict party line vote Tuesday evening.

Because of the thousands of emails and phone calls made by school employees, parents and community members, the Committee spent **ELEVEN** meetings debating and amending the bill. The bill now heads to the Senate Finance Committee.

The Senate Finance Committee **CAN** stop this bill. It is critical that all school employees, parents and community members email and call members of the Senate Finance Committee immediately!

Our message to the Senate Finance Committee is clear. Charter schools will drain taxpayer funds from our already over-burdened public school system. When budgets are cut, our students suffer!

Email Senate Finance members with one click at www.aftwv.org

Call Senate Finance members at the numbers listed below!

Chairman Mike Hall
(304) 357-7901

Vice-Chair Chris Walters
(304) 357-7866

Senator Mitch Carmichael
(304) 357-7855

Senator Craig Blair
(304) 357-7867

Senator Greg Boso
(304) 357-7973

Senator Donna J. Boley
(304) 357-7905

Senator Jeff Mullins
(304) 357-7831

Senator Dave Sypolt
(304) 357-7914

Senator Tom Takubo

(304) 357-7990
Senator Doug Facemire
(304) 357-7845

Senator Jeff Kessler
(304) 357-7902

Senator William R. Laird IV
(304) 357-7849

Senator Robert H. Plymale
(304) 357-7937

Senator Roman Prezioso
(304) 357-7961

Senator Ron Stollings
(304) 357-7939

Senator John R. Unger II
(304) 357-7933

Senator Jack Yost
(304) 357-7984

 Reclaiming the

Promise

Get Active and Stay Informed!

The best way to stay in the know is to sign up for our AFTWV Action Alert text messages. We will send the information you need directly to your phone!*

Text: AFTWV
To: 69238

*AFT will not charge for these updates, but your carrier's message and data rates may apply.


"Like" us on facebook!
facebook.com/AFTWV


Follow us on twitter!
[@AFTWV](https://twitter.com/AFTWV)

Visit our website today
www.aftwv.org
Watch our video legislative updates and update your email for more news you need!



AFT-WV 2015 Legislative Update - Friday, February 20, 2015

AFT-WV Bill Watch:

[House Bill 2077](#) - Requiring county boards of education to provide release time for professional educators and service personnel when serving in an elected municipal or county office

AFT-WV **supports** public education employees serving at all levels of elected office, from city hall to the statehouse.

[House Bill 2082](#) - Requiring county boards of education to employ a certified library media specialist in each county school

AFT-WV **supports** with appropriate funding allocation.

[House Bill 2107](#) - Relating to required courses of school instruction generally

AFT-WV **opposes** mandating curriculum in state code.

[Senate Bill 33](#) - Decreasing teacher-pupil ratios; increasing certain classroom aides' pay

AFT-WV **supports** all efforts to produce a quality learning environment. SB33 would establish a 20 pupil per class maximum for pre-K through 2nd grade and 25 pupil per class maximum for all other classrooms.

Education Bills on the Move:

[SB19](#) Specifying minimum early childhood education program instruction days

Reduces early childhood education program requirement from five days per week to four days. PASSED SENATE 34-0; PENDING HOUSE EDUCATION

[HB2005](#) Alternative Certification Programs

Expands alternative certification, permits Teach For America; PASSED HOUSE, PENDING SENATE EDUCATION; AFT-WV OPPOSES

[HB2139](#) Relating to employment of retired teachers as substitutes in areas of critical need and shortage for substitutes

Restarts expired provisions that allow retired teachers to be employed as substitutes in areas of critical need and shortage for substitutes beyond the 140-day post-retirement employment limit. 2nd READING IN HOUSE; AFT-WV SUPPORTS

[HB2160](#) WV Schools for the Deaf and Blind eligible for SBA funding

Makes schools for deaf and blind eligible to participate in all funding administered or distributed by WV SBA; PASSED HOUSE 95-0, PENDING SENATE EDUCATION; AFT-WV SUPPORTS

[HB2377](#) Authorizing State Board of Education to approve certain alternatives with respect to instructional time

Describes the constitutional authority of the State Board of Education for the general supervision of the public schools and includes provisions for flexibility for instructional time. AFT-WV worked to ensure flexibility provisions in the bill guarantee the current minimum required planning period for teachers; ADVANCED TO HOUSE JUDICIARY WITH AMENDMENTS; AFT SUPPORTS

[HB2387](#) Relating to a framework for initiating comprehensive transformation of school leadership PASSED HOUSE, PENDING SENATE EDUCATION

[HB2545](#) Relating to reimbursement of certification fee for National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification

2nd READING IN HOUSE; AFT-WV SUPPORTS

[HB2598](#) Ensuring that teachers of students with disabilities receive complete information about the school's plan for accommodating the child's disabilities

HOUSE EDUCATION; AFT-WV SUPPORTS

Printed In House



AFT-West Virginia
Christine Campbell, President
www.aftwv.org 800.222.9838

