



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

AFT-West Virginia, AFL-CIO



Standing 55 Strong...From Statehouse to Schoolhouse

March 1, 2019

Entering the home stretch of the 2019 session

Pay Raise Bill – HB 2730

The WV House of Delegates passed the Governor’s “clean” pay raise bill last week and the Senate received on Saturday. Both chambers have been busy getting bills out of their chamber of origin by Wednesday.

Both the House and Senate have put forth a budget bill. The House budget bill contains the pay raise, while the Senate’s version does not. If the clean pay bill does not pass, the Governor has indicated he will veto the budget and call a special session to pass the pay raise.



ACTION ALERT: Please email and call these Republican senators and tell them to stop the gamesmanship, advance the bill from the committees and pass the clean pay bill.

| | | |
|---------------------|--|----------------|
| Mike Azinger | mike.azinger@wvsenate.gov | (304) 357-7970 |
| Craig Blair | craig.blair@wvsenate.gov | (304) 357-7867 |
| Donna J. Boley | donna.boleyn@wvsenate.gov | (304) 357-7905 |
| Greg Boso | greg.boso@wvsenate.gov | (304) 357-7973 |
| Mitch Carmichael | Mitch.Carmichael@wvsenate.gov | (304) 357-7801 |
| Charles H. Clements | charles.clements@wvsenate.gov | (304) 357-7827 |
| Sue. Cline | sue.cline@wvsenate.gov | (304) 357-7807 |
| Mike Maroney | mike.maroney@wvsenate.gov | (304) 357-7902 |
| Mark Maynard | Mark.Maynard@wvsenate.gov | (304) 357-7808 |
| Rollan Roberts | rollan.roberts@wvsenate.gov | (304) 357-7831 |
| Patricia Rucker | patricia.rucker@wvsenate.gov | (304) 357-7957 |
| Randy Smith | randy.smith@wvsenate.gov | (304) 357-7995 |
| Chandler Swope | chandler.swope@wvsenate.gov | (304) 357-7843 |
| Dave Sypolt | dave.sypolt@wvsenate.gov | (304) 357-7914 |
| Tom Takubo | tom.takubo@wvsenate.gov | (304) 357-7990 |
| Eric Tarr | eric.tarr@wvsenate.gov | (304) 357-7901 |
| Charles S. Trump IV | charles.trump@wvsenate.gov | (304) 357-7980 |
| Ryan Weld | ryan.weld@wvsenate.gov | (304) 357-7984 |

PEIA Funding – HB 2665

HB 2655 appropriates the \$150 million promised by Gov. Justice into the PEIA Rainy Day Fund to shore up the Public Employees Insurance Agency. The bill has passed the House and awaits action by the Senate.



Stay Informed

Circumstances can change rapidly and it's important for AFT-WV to be able to contact members instantly.

During the strike, AFT-WV deployed a new technology tool available to the union to poll members via text. If you did not receive the text from AFT-WV during the strike, we do not have a valid cell phone number for you.

If you would like to be able to receive texts from AFT-WV in the future, please update your contact information at this link: <https://leadernet.aft.org/webform/update-my-contact-information>



Bills of Note: Still Alive

[SB 1](#) Offers tuition grants for WV residents to obtain degrees through WV Community and Technical Colleges. Passed Senate; pending House Finance.

[SB 267](#) Requiring State Board of Education adopt policy detailing level of computer science instruction. Completed Legislative Process; signed by Governor

[SB 14](#) Creating WV Farm-to-School Grant Program. Passed Senate; pending House Finance

[SB 86](#) Requiring county boards provide free feminine hygiene products in grades five to 12. Passed Senate; pending House Education

[SB 238](#) Increasing certain penalties for passing stopped school bus. Passed Senate; pending House Judiciary

[SB 329](#) Relating to agricultural education in high schools. Passed Senate; pending House Education

[SB 632](#) Improving student safety. Passed Senate; pending House Education

[HB 2009](#) Creating a new category of Innovation in Education grant program. Passed House; pending Senate Finance

[HB 2095](#) Assessing the college- and career-readiness of 11th and 12th grade students. Passed House; pending Senate Education

[HB 2397](#) Requires county school boards to provide adequate mental health and counseling services, at the rate of 1 psychologist per 1000 pupil in K-7 (same ratio as nurses.) The bill would not become effective until 2021-22 school year. Passed House; pending Senate Education

[HB 2378](#) Relating generally to grounds for revocation of a teaching certificate. Passed House, pending Senate Education

[HB 2853](#) Establishes the WV Program for Open Education Resources, which would put any teaching resources/materials that are in open domain to a centralized location. This would be publicly accessible. No one would be required to put their items within the database. Non-copyrighted material only. Passed House; pending Senate Education

[HB 2554](#) Relating to transfers and enrollment policies for students in public schools. Passed House; pending Senate Education.

[HB 2541](#) Requiring certain safety measures be taken at public schools. Passed House; pending Senate Education

[HB 2662](#) Relating to certificates or employment of school personnel. Passed House; pending Senate Education

Dead and Gone

Two high profile bills failed to pass this week:

- HB 3127, referred to as the Tim Tebow bill, would have allowed participation by home schooled and private school students in extra-curricular activities. The bill was defeated on a 46-52 vote on the House floor.
- HB 2433 made modifications to the school calendar, reducing the instructional term to 170 days and required school to begin no earlier than Sept. 1 and end prior to May 31. The bill did not make it out of the House by crossover day.