



WVSSPA

West Virginia School Service Personnel Association
An Affiliate of the UMWA WV AFL-CIO

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2023 Legislative Update Week 2 (1/20/2023)

Education Bills are moving quickly in the Senate, while the House of Delegates have begun moving bills through the committee process. Read below for a list bills legislation affecting service personnel that we are watching.

Active Legislation

SB 41-Increases the state aid funding to 1200 students for counties with actual enrollment lower than 1200. This would be a significant increase in funds for 5 of West Virginia's county school system. **Passed Senate Education and will be sent to Senate Finance. (Senator Clements)**

SB 56-Deems Bus Operators as critical need. This will allow retired bus operators to work as substitutes without penalty to their retirement. **Passed Senate Education and will be sent to Senate Finance. (Senator Weld)**

SB 74-The purpose of this bill is to require entities and parties to uphold and apply the Superintendent of Schools' interpretation of school law and State Board of Education rules. This legislation will require the Grievance Board to give "significant deference" to the interpretation given by the State Superintendent when deciding a grievance. This will force many cases to the Intermediate Court of Appeals to overturn the interpretation given by the State Superintendent. **Passed Senate floor and will be sent to the House. (Senator Weld)**

SB 127-This deals with PEIA and the rate it reimburses hospitals for care. It raises the reimbursement rate to 110% of what Medicare pays hospitals. The Senate suspended rules and passed this bill on the first day of session. **Passed the Senate and sent to the House of Delegates. (Senator Weld)**

SB 139-This bill requires all county board of education meetings to be recorded and livestreamed. They must have the link to watch these meetings on their website. The Senate suspended rules and passed this bill on the first day of session. **Passed the Senate and sent to the House of Delegates. (Senator Roberts)**

HB 2003-Providing early childhood assistant teachers and systems of support to help students achieve grade level literacy and numeracy by end of third grade. The intent of this legislation is to place ECCAT's in all 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade classrooms. **Passed House Education and sent to House Finance. (Speaker Hanshaw)**

HB 2602- Reestablishing certain specialized school service personnel classifications, Aide V and Aide VI. This previously passed, due to an error in another piece of legislation was not put into code. **Passed House Education and read a first time in the House. (Delegate Toney)**

SB 56 -Deems Bus Operators as critical need. This will allow retired bus operators to work as substitutes without penalty to their retirement. Similar to HB2346. **Passed Senate Education and sent to Senate Finance. (Weld)**

Legislation Introduced

HB 2776-5% pay raise for state employees. Service personnel would receive \$130 month. Like previous pay raises this not a true 5% but a low average of service personnel salaries. **Introduced in the House of Delegates (Governor Justice)**

SB 81 and HB 2134-Allowing Tier II Teachers Retirement System members to apply accrued annual and sick leave toward an increase in retirement benefits. **Introduced in the Senate and House. (Senator Grady) (Delegate Toney)**

Legislation Introduced Continued:

SB 237-One time bonus of \$1500 to retired state employees with 25 years of service and minimum monthly salary of \$1000 for retired state employees over 70 with 25 year experience. **Introduced in the House of Delegates. (Nelson)**

HB 2139-Will provide a 5% cost of living increase for state retirees who make under \$60,000 per year. **Introduced in the House of Delegates. (Delegate Toney)**

HB 2598-Would provide a \$900 monthly pay increase for all service personnel. **Introduced in the House of Delegates. (Delegate Toney)**

HB 2320-Changing the recommended guidelines for full-day and half-day cooks to the minimum ratio of one cook for every 110 meals. **Introduced in the House of Delegates. (Delegate Toney)**

HB 2433-This creates three separate bus operator job titles based on years worked and provides an increase in pay grade. **Introduced in the House of Delegates. (Delegate Toney)**

HB 2443-A service employee who is certified as a Director or Supervisor of Pupil Transportation by the NAPT is eligible for any professional employee position involving supervision of a county transportation department. All new persons employed as a director, assistant director or coordinator of transportation shall have at least five years of experience working in the transportation department of a county board. **Introduced in the House of Delegates. (Delegate Toney)**

HB 2455-Defining a work day for school service personnel and removing a provision relating to employment of licensed practical nurses. This makes all service personnel hourly and allow employees to be RIFed to hire an LPN. **Introduced in the House of Delegates. (Delegate Martin)**

HB 2507-The purpose of this bill is to extend certain time limits throughout the process, to require a notarized grievance form; outline the grievance motion to dismiss procedure; allow employer to develop procedural policy; require adjudicators at all levels to abide by the Code of Conduct for Administrative Law Judges; require disclosure of representatives of employees; require representatives to disclose each employee being represented; charging annual leave for work hours spent preparing for and attending grievances in excess of four hours; and update language to the current drafting requirements. This bill was recommended by the Department of Transportation. **Introduced in the House of Delegates. (Delegate Linville)**

SB 268 and HB 2534-This bill makes extensive changes to PEIA. This would increase premiums for employees and employers back to 80/20, condense salary tiers, change the life insurance payout at age 65, and remove spouses from PEIA if they have other insurance available. **Introduced in the Senate and House. (Senator Takubo) (Delegate Summers)**

LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR - 2023

1st Day January 11, 2023: First day of session.

20th Day January 30, 2023: Submission of Legislative Rule-Making Review bills due.

35th Day February 14, 2023: Last day to introduce bills in the House.

41st Day February 20, 2023: Last day to introduce bills in the Senate.

47th Day February 26, 2023: Bills due out of committees in house of origin to ensure three full days for readings.

50th Day March 1, 2023: Last day to consider bill on third reading in house of origin. Does not include budget or supplementary appropriation bills.

60th Day March 11, 2023: Adjournment at Midnight.

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