



WVSSPA

West Virginia School Service Personnel Association



An Affiliate of the UMWA
WV AFL-CIO

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2023 Legislative Update Week 4 (2/3/2023)

There is some beneficial legislation, like the Cook to Meal Ratio bill, introduced this year that is just not being put on committee agendas. In addition, many positive bills are stuck in the Finance Committees. We need each of you to contact your legislators and ask them to move good bills and vote against the bad ones. Read below for a list of legislation affecting service personnel.

Active Legislation

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. **These positions were previously in code but removed due to a computer error. Passed House of Delegates. (Delegate Toney)**

HB 2598-Would provide a \$900 monthly pay increase for all service personnel. **This would be a significant pay raise for service personnel putting our salaries equal to surrounding states. Passed House Education sent to House Finance. (Delegate Toney)**

HB 2893-The purpose of this bill is to provide a one-time bonus payment of \$1500 for retirees in the Public Employees Retirement System and the Teachers Retirement System that are at least 70 years of age with 20 years of service and receive a monthly annuity of less than \$1000. This also raises the monthly annuity to \$1000 for retirees age 70 with 25 years experience. **This was a legislation the Governor Spoke about in the State of the State. Passed Pensions and Retirement sent to House Finance. (Governor Justice)**

SB 461-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; 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; not allowing an employee to represent a grievant more than 5 times per year; holds the grievance in abeyance if the grievant is on leave. Amended in Judiciary to include a loser pays clause. This bill was recommended by the Department of Transportation. **Terrible bill intended to make filing a grievance and going through the grievance process as difficult as possible. Passed the Senate and has been sent to the House of Delegates. (Senator Clements)**

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 or one year to get the proper certifications. **This bill would allow more service Personnel to bid on and get Professional positions in transportation. Passed the House of Delegates and sent to the Senate. (Delegate Toney)**

2023 Legislative Update Week 4 (2/3/2023)

Active Legislation-No Movement

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. **This is terrible legislation aimed at weakening the grievance procedure. Passed Senate floor and will be sent to the House. (Senator Weld)**

SB 244-Requires every board, commission, agency, or entity that issues licenses, registrations, or certifications to individuals who practice a profession, occupation, or trade in this state, shall prepare and maintain a complete roster of the names and mailing address to be made available online and at the request of the public. **This is an invasion of privacy. As public employees your names and work locations are available to the public, your contact information and address should not be. Passed the Senate and has been sent to the House. (Senator Woodrum)**

SB 59-Changes the number of weeks workers are eligible for Unemployment from 26 weeks to just 12 weeks and only increasing to 20 weeks in times of high unemployment. **Another piece of legislation aimed at taking away from workers. Unemployment is historically low. If there is fraud it should be handled but not in a way that punishes those who truly need the benefit. Passed the Senate and has been sent to the House. (Senator Takubo)**

SB 56 and HB 2346-Deems Bus Operators as critical need. This will allow retired bus operators to work as substitutes without penalty to their retirement. **If this legislation passes it would go a long way in relieving bus operator shortages. Passed Senate Education and sent to Senate Finance and Passed House Education and sent to House Finance. (Senator Weld) (Delegate Toney)**

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. A similar bill has been introduced in the Senate, but only provides aides for 1st grade the first year, then adds 2nd and 3rd grade in subsequent years. **This is great legislation that would not only create 2900 jobs but truly help our students succeed. Passed House Education and sent to House Finance. (Speaker Hanshaw)**

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)**

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Contact WVSSPA

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LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR - 2023

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

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.

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