



WVSSPA

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

2026 Legislative Update Week 2 - 01/23/2026

Very few pieces of legislation concerning service personnel have moved in the second week of the session. Below are several bills we are watching. We focus on bills moving through committees.

SB 428 divides bus operators into 3 separate job titles. Bus Operator I is a bus operator with less than 5 years of experience and would remain at pay grade D. Bus Operator II is a bus operator with 5 to 10 years of experience and would be paid at pay grade E. Bus Operator III is a bus operator with 10 or more years of experience and would be paid at pay grade F. This bill also raises a Cafeteria Manager from a pay grade D to pay grade E. This bill has passed the Senate Education Committee and has been sent to the Senate Finance Committee. The lead sponsors are Senator Deeds and Senator Morris.

HB 4574 establishes a reserve called the Temporary Shortfall Supplement Fund for the County Board of Education to assist counties in financial difficulty with less than five percent of available funding. Funds allocated to these counties must be repaid to the state. Additionally, the county must submit its financial statements to the State Board of Education upon request and comply with all WVEIS requirements. A report is required to LOCEA if the county's reserve drops below 5 percent for more than 60 days. **HB 4575**, a related appropriation bill, allocates \$8 million of surplus funds to the Shortfall Supplement Fund. Both bills originated in the House Finance Committee. The House suspended rules to pass both bills in one day and reported them to the Senate.

HB 4025 exempts new hires and promoted employees within the Departments of Health Facilities, Human Services, and Health from the classified civil service system and the state grievance process, effective July 1, 2026. This bill was introduced on behalf of Governor Morrisey. It was placed on the House Government Organization agenda this week, but has not yet passed the committee.

HB 4765 and **SB 585** intend to increase the salaries of certain state employees by 3%. This would give service personnel a monthly increase of \$87. Both bills were introduced today on behalf of Governor Morrisey.

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