

LEGISLATIVE

2024 67th Annual

West Virginia Youth in Government

April 25-27, 2024

Youth Governor
Ella Waters

Hedgesville YLA

Youth Chief Justice
Cole Thomas

James Monroe YLA

Tomorrow's Leaders Start Today!





April 25-27, 2024

Capitol- Charleston

Bill Book Table of Contents

	Pages
Welcome, Meet the Team, Hotel Check In, Capitol Meeting Rooms, Program Info	5 - 12
Conduct, Use and Care of the Statehouse	13
Introduction and Purpose	14 - 16
Constitution - Preambles, Bill of Rights	17 - 18
Summary of Procedures	19 - 28
Parliamentary Procedure for the Student Legislature	29 - 34
Governor, Cabinet, and Lobbyist Information and Position on Legislation	35 - 36
Schedule of Legislation in Committees	37
Resolutions - Thanking the General Assembly and Granting the Press the Privilege of the Floor	38
Practice Bills	39 - 44
House of Representatives	45
House Committee Assignments	46
House Seating Chart	47
House Bills	48 - 74
Senate	75
Senate Committee Assignments	76
Senate Seating Chart	77
Senate Bills	78 - 100
Directory of Participants	101 - 106
State House Floor Plans	107 - 114
Jumpstart Savings Plan & SMART529	115 - 118
Officer Responsibilities and Qualifications	119 - 127
Officer Leadership Corps	128 - 130
2025 Candidates	131 - 146
2025 Elected Officer - Nomination Form	147 - 150
2025 Governor's Cabinet Application	151 - 152
2025 Associate Justice Application	153 - 154
2025 Committee Chair Application	155 - 156
2025 Press Editor Application	157 - 158
Summer Entrepreneurship Summit Information & Application	159 - 162
Summer Leadership Summit Information & Application	163 - 166
Sponsors	167

2024 WEST VIRGINIA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT YOUTH GOVERNOR LETTER



Hello all, and welcome to the 67th session of West Virginia Youth in Government! It is my great honor to welcome each of you to Charleston for this event. As we gather from places along the country roads, I ask that you embrace your roots and hold close to your beliefs. These personal components make up who you are and allow you to influence government processes with your own unique perspective. This event has a long history of changing lives across the state, and I am hopeful that this session will be no different for you. I urge you to make this the most fulfilling experience possible through meeting others and participating in the activities of state government. Your engagement this weekend demonstrates your passion for leadership and creates hope for the future of our great state. As Governor, I would like to thank you for being here and committing to the improvement of West Virginia.

Continually, I would like to thank each advisor, parent, and Youth Leadership Association staff member for your support and dedication to the Youth and Government program. Without your efforts, this weekend would not have been possible. To the YLA office, thank you for creating an experience that cannot be replicated. Your mentorship and love have made this program all that it is, and the youth of West Virginia could not be more fortunate to have your guidance.

My Best,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Ella G. Waters". The signature is written in dark ink and has a decorative flourish at the end.

Ella G. Waters

2024 West Virginia Youth Governor

2024 WEST VIRGINIA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT CHIEF JUSTICE LETTER



Hello, everyone! For those of you that I have yet to meet, my name is Cole Thomas and I will be serving as the West Virginia Youth Chief Justice for this year's Youth in Government. The Youth Leadership Association has served as a forerunner in my education, permitting me to discover my passion and intended career choice. Through the judicial program, I have debated and won all of my cases, served as an Associate Justice, and this year will be serving as the Chief Justice. After high school, I plan to attend Bethany College to double major in Political Science and Business Administration/Medical Administration, and declare the Pre-Law route.

My advice for everyone attending Youth in Government this year is to make the most out of this opportunity. Not only has this event brought me countless friendships, but a vast understanding of government. Make sure to be argumentative and educated during your cases, or speak up during your legislative session. The Youth Leadership Association has been a critical landmark in my development as a future leader, and I strongly encourage everyone present to take advantage of this incredible opportunity! I hope that everyone here has an incredible experience and that the Youth Leadership Association will mean as much to them, as it does to me.

Thank you!

Cole Thomas

MEET YOUR YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

2024



Ella Waters,
Youth Governor



Emma Ballard,
Chief of Staff



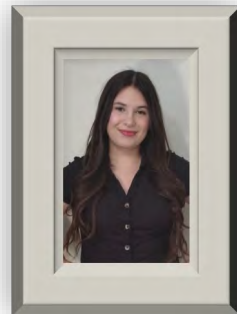
Shane Arthur,
Secretary of Administration



Lauren Rice,
Press Secretary/
Editor



Evelyn Jennings,
Secretary of Education



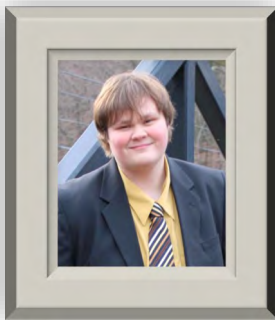
Amanda Flora,
Secretary of Tourism



MJ Niggemyer,
Secretary of Economic
Development



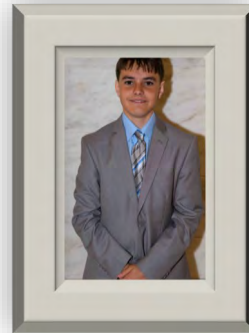
Piper Cook, Secretary of
Dept. Health & Human
Resources



Liam Savage,
Speaker of the House



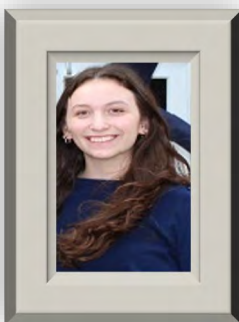
Hannah Willis,
House Chaplain



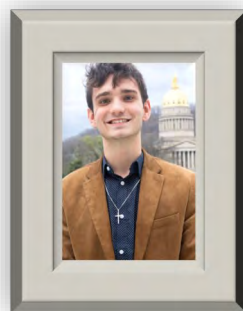
Thomas Sibold,
President of the Senate



Gavin French,
Senate Clerk



Sarah McBee,
Senate Chaplain



Cole Thomas,
Youth Chief Justice



Nick Albright,



Thomas Lyons,
Associate Justice

Photo not available at time of print: Ethan Freed, Associate Justice and LeiAnn Richmond, Associate Justice



***Welcome* to our 67th YLA West Virginia Youth in Government!**

Ohio-West Virginia Youth Leadership Association

For 67 years, West Virginia's best and brightest students have been meeting annually to participate in Youth in Government! Cecil Underwood was Governor when he worked with our HI-Y students, advisors and staff to plan our first YG. Their work convened our first WV YG in 1958 at the Capitol. The founding principles Governor Underwood and those helping him built into Youth in Government remain our foundation today – integrity, volunteer service, responsibility, and citizenship.

YLA Youth in Government is distinctly different. We're about citizenship, not politics, political careers, talk, or debate. YG seeks solutions for the common good as we lift others up to become their very best, work to change conditions so all succeed, and to make our schools, communities and state better than we found them.

In these two days at the Capitol, experience the process of state government, make decisions to move West Virginia forward, create connections with peers and adults from across our state, and have a great time with a purpose. Make friends, learn all you can, put your best ideas forward, and make differences for good now and throughout your life.

YLA began as a State YMCA in 1867. The Youth Leadership Association is inclusive, signaling an invitation to all to participate. New doors of opportunity are opening for more youth to benefit in all YLA programs. YLA youth will make even greater contributions to improving our communities, states, and nation.

Now – enjoy, learn, help others, and make lasting differences for good!

Check in and Capitol Meeting Rooms:

Thursday, April 25, 2024

Check In 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Embassy Suites

ONLY DELEGATION LEADERS *register delegations at the Youth in Government table* in the hotel lobby, not the hotel front desk. YLA staff provide hotel keys to the Delegation Leader. Hotel rooms may not be available until

the hotel's normal 3:00 p.m. check in time.

Please have your delegation members dressed for the program when you arrive at the hotel. There will be rooms to store luggage until hotel rooms are available.

Delegations are responsible for their own parking fees.

Capitol

Review with your total student and adult delegation the Use and Care of the Capitol explained on page 6.

Responsibility

Responsibilities of students and adults are more completely explained in this Bill Book and in the YG Manual.

Briefly –

Every student and adult through the act of registering to attend Youth in Government has agreed to support the Code of Conduct.

Local delegations select their own participants and are responsible for their conduct at all times.

One adult supervisor is to accompany every ten youth members of a delegation. Adults are to be 21 years of age or older, registered participants with the YG program and must stay at the hotel with their delegations. The Adult Delegation Leader is responsible for the conduct, supervision, and control of all youth and adult members of their delegation. Adults also have assignments to help with the YG program.

Delegation Leaders and Advisors prepare their students in advance of YG. Adults do not influence legislation or judicial decisions. Adults encourage their students to meet students from other delegations and to interact with other students throughout the weekend. Advisors do not “keep” their students away from other students during YG sessions.

YG Office	Table outside the House of Delegates
Bill Coordinators	Table outside the House of Delegates
Senate Committee 1	Senate 451 (Finance)
Senate Committee 2	208 West (Judiciary)
House Committee 1	House 410M (Judiciary)
House Committee 2	House 434M (Education)
House Committee 3	House 460M (Finance)
Lobbyists	Table outside House of Delegates
Pages	Pages at assigned locations. Page advisor table in near House Chamber
Press	House Committee Room 215-E (across the roof)
Supreme Court	Supreme Court
Youth Governor and Cabinet	Room Back of the House Chambers

Dress

Youth in Government is a model of government in action. Included is the way we act, speak, conduct ourselves, and the way we dress. Youth in Government sessions require professional business attire.

Men wear coats and ties during the program sessions. No sport shirts or blue jeans. Women wear professional business attire. No spaghetti straps or exposed midriff allowed. Women may wear nice pants outfits.

Casual dress including blue jeans is appropriate at recreation and the hotel.

Meals – Only if staying at the Embassy

Breakfast is provided. All other meals are “on your own”.

Housing

Everyone is required to stay at the Youth in Government hotel. Lodging is included in your program fee. Additional information is available on the Participation Agreement. Please note that if a group does not have enough students to fill up a room, expect your student(s) to be housed with students from another delegation or you may “buy” out rooms for your students. Contact the YLA for costs to buy out one or more rooms.

Parking

Parking is at your expense. Parking is available at the hotel or in nearby parking lots for a fee.

Cancellations and Refund Policy

The best laid plans can go awry. However, since all our program fees are set below our actual costs, we have no flexibility to provide refunds. Therefore, **our policy is NOT to provide refunds for the Participation Agreement or the Final Fee.** Actually the person cancelling should reimburse the program for the costs the program has incurred on their behalf by paying the scholarship received back to the program. The program does permit delegations to send a replacement.

1. Delegations who want to provide refunds need to set aside money to provide refunds to their students.
2. Delegations don't refer parents to the YG Office with billing/refund questions. Handle these locally.
3. After a delegation is registered, it is responsible for the entire payment for that number of student/adult delegates.
4. There are no refunds from the Youth Leadership Association so do not ask nor have others call to ask.

Code of Conduct: YLA Family of Programs

Participants – youth and adults - in YLA programs demonstrate responsibility and the highest levels of personal and group character. Due to that, few rules are required.

In general, our rules are summarized in these three (3) points:

1. Treat others as one wants to be treated.
2. Do not fail to do something that would help others, make the place we are using cleaner, safer, and a better experience for all.
3. Do not do anything that hurts or could potentially harm another person, place, or thing.

Some specifics may be helpful –

1. Attend all sessions of the program;
2. Wear name badges as called for by the program;
3. Names of anyone absent from a session are referred to the program director and the appropriate advisor;
4. Adult sponsors and chaperones are responsible for the supervision of their Delegation;
5. ABSOLUTELY NO FOOD, DRINK, or GUM are permitted in the House, Senate, Committee rooms, Supreme Court, or other government facilities used at YG;
6. Not permitted at YLA programs are tobacco, alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, or weapons;
7. There is no coed visiting in housing rooms;
8. All delegates are in their own room, observe quiet hours at the time indicated by the curfew and will not leave their room until the end of curfew;
9. Room changes are not made unless made by YLA staff;
10. Participants do not invite or receive visitors unless approved by the Advisor and YLA staff. Visitors, alumni, etc. are not permitted in the lodging facility guest sleeping rooms at any time. Guests are restricted to lobbies and visitor areas.

Use & Care of the Statehouse/Capitol

Use of the Statehouse/Capitol requires the highest level of care and respect for the facility, its furnishings, equipment and its traditions. Each student participant and adult is to exercise the **highest level of individual responsibility for the Statehouse/Capitol and to hold everyone else to that same level of responsibility.**

No chewing gum in the Statehouse/Capitol.

No food, snacks, candy or drinks (including water bottles) in any Statehouse/Capitol room.

The **desks**, chairs and other furniture in the Senate and House are easily scratched or marred. Use deliberate caution in placing items on the desk or lifting things off. Do not slide anything as they easily can scratch the finish. Do not “toss” books, purses, brief cases or anything on a desk as that can easily damage the finish of the desk. Staples are a problem too. Do not put a stapler on a desk top. *Do not write on any single sheet of paper on a desk as the pencil/pen can leave an impression on the desk finish.*

Do not sit or lean on any desk top or desk.

Check the desk, chair, tables and rooms one is using. Report any damage observed to the Advisor in that room and/or YG Staff. Advisors, pass on damage reports in writing to YG Staff.

Extend to all members of the Senate and House of Representatives/Delegates as well as to all Statehouse/Capitol staff every courtesy including *Thank you.*

Clean up! Straighten up any room one uses. Any papers one no longer wants, put in trash can. Leave every room clean.

Thank you for all your efforts to follow these guidelines.

Introduction and Purpose

Both Ohio and West Virginia's Youth in Government programs grew out of and continue to extend the impact of our youth programs in both our two states. Ohio's program began in 1952 and West Virginia's in 1958.

YLA Youth in Government reflects the idea that *"democracy must be learned by each generation"* and is based on Thomas Jefferson's belief that, *"the purpose of education is to create good citizens of the community"*.



C. William O'Neill, 1952 founder of Ohio HI-YLA Youth in Government.

Our founders, the late C. William O'Neill, the only person in Ohio history to serve as Attorney General, Speaker of the House, Governor and Chief Justice, and the late Governor Cecil Underwood, West Virginia's youngest and then oldest Governor, worked with our students, volunteers and staff to create Youth in Government in each state. Both leaders recognized our unique role engaging teenagers in improving their homes, schools and communities. They responded to teenagers who wanted to extend this influence and leadership statewide.

"This is truly a seedbed of leadership," said O'Neill. *"We produce much needed local and state leadership,"* Governor Underwood stated when helping launch West Virginia's Youth in Government. He went on to say, *"The future of our nation depends upon the caliber of young people who will soon assume positions of leadership in our country. Youth in Government will provide a year-round laboratory experience in practical politics. Youth will be able to study public issues, debate public policies, write legislation, and actually participate in the process of government."*



WYVG Founder Governor Cecil Underwood, 40th Youth Governor Laurel Lackey and 1st Youth Governor Rebecca Colebank Duckworth at YG's 50th anniversary.

Both founders wanted Youth in Government to be more than just passing legislation. In fact, both thought the last thing needed to solve a problem was more legislation. What was needed were young people seeing what needs done to make their communities better, figuring out what to do and then doing it. Legislation is a last resort.

Student legislation proposed to Youth in Government would come out of a student's real life and volunteer experience. O'Neill and Underwood believed in and supported our approach to leadership development. They saw lives changed as teens changed their world. Our time-tested learn by doing model of leadership development works as teens identify the kind of school and community they want, create and carry out initiatives to achieve their vision and reflect on their work to strengthen future action. Both our Youth in Governments continue to build on this foundation.

Citizenship is our Purpose

Simply put, YLA Youth in Government is about citizenship, not politics or political careers. Everyone's job is to be a citizen. After that comes our life's work. From presidents to governors and janitors, we all have the same job – citizen. Youth in Government brings together students of all backgrounds, interests, and experience to broaden our understanding of democratic citizenship by engaging in the process of state government.

Youth in Government is one of YLA's programs offered to every school and community by the Ohio-West Virginia Youth Leadership Association. YLA is a resource providing technical assistance, program development, manuals, materials, training, newsletters, idea exchanges, state and national youth leadership conferences and camps.

YLA Philosophy of Leadership

YLA believes each person is responsible for the life of their community and to help others as well as the community achieve their potential.

YLA believes that civic leadership has little to do with power and everything to do with responsibility. What counts is individual and group character. YLA promotes *Respect - Responsibility - Caring - Trustworthiness - Honesty - Fairness - Citizenship*.

Learning Style

YLA's service-learning approach enables students to connect classroom lessons, life experience and active engagement in community building to their service as Legislators, Supreme Court Justices, Officers, Lobbyists, Press or Page delegates to the Model Legislature or Supreme Court. The American governmental process unfolds with deeper understanding as students seek to solve pressing issues through the Student Legislature and Supreme Court.

Board and Committee

A volunteer board of twenty members governs the Ohio-West Virginia Youth Leadership Association. Board appointed committees and volunteers secure the resources our programs require to succeed, work to achieve YLA's mission and goals, and extend YLA programs to every interested community.

Staff

The YLA Board employs an Executive who is responsible to employ other staff and to engage volunteers to carry out Board policies, the work of committees and volunteers as well as our youth programs.

Contact YLA at www.ylaleads.org; 304-675-5899; yla@yleleads.org



Ohio-West Virginia Youth Leadership Association

Preparing the Next Generation of Civic Leaders

Leadership • Character • Service • Entrepreneurship • Philanthropy

YLA

YLA youth chapters are incubators of civic leadership! Teens learn what it takes to plan, organize, and work out—through trial and error—how to make their schools, communities, and world a better place to live. *This is the best thing I've done in school. I've learned so much, gained confidence I never dreamed I could have, got involved and now I am ready for the future!* YLA Chapters are most often school-based but have also been sponsored by city councils, churches, 4-H clubs and more.

YLA Fall Leadership Conference

YLA Fall Conference is a three-day opportunity for YLA members from across the region to gather for skill-building sessions, networking, and best practices, and to strengthen the bonds between local YLA chapters. Participants get an introduction to the entire program and return home with the enthusiasm and skills to become more involved. Fall Conference is held at Jackson's Mill in November.

Youth in Government

Where else do teenagers get to “take over” the state capitol for three days? *This is great! We get to be legislators sitting in the same seats and using the same facilities they use. I've learned more about civics and state government this way than from any book or classroom. We take what we learn in class and get to apply it. Some of the laws we propose have actually become state law. Judicial is great! We get to see how the judicial system works. I don't want to be an attorney, but I need to understand the court.*

Youth & Government Seminars

Youth & Government Seminars offer West Virginia 8th graders and Ohio 6th - 8th grade students an opportunity to witness first hand how their state government works through observation and interaction with government officials during a legislative session.

Model United Nations

YLA Model United Nations offers a “window on the world” opportunity for students to participate and experience a personal perspective in solving global and international issues. *Model UN is a great way to learn about the world. I came into this program with no knowledge about the UN or my nation. I left with that knowledge plus the ability to think as my nation and a greater appreciation for other nations.*

Horseshoe Leadership Center

Nestled in West Virginia's Appalachian mountains, *Horseshoe's Teen Entrepreneurship and Leadership-Service Summits* are exceptional experiences for teens to network, work together, and learn how they can “make a difference” in their world for a better future. *This literally was the best week of my life. I'm going home a new person, I know who I am!*

Later in the season, *Youth Opportunity Camps* help low income 7 - 12 year old boys and girls get on the path toward success. *I see differences Horseshoe makes to kids' lives in just one week. They feel safe here, they get to be themselves here, they can forget about their worries here. Kids may come with nothing, but are given something priceless that lets them know someone cares!*

Cave Lake

Cave Lake, a place of rare natural beauty in Ohio's Appalachian region, is being transformed into a nationally significant year-round learning center for youth, adults and families. Cave Lake's 700 acres offer unsurpassed opportunities for leadership development, as well as a peaceful atmosphere for personal and group growth, enjoyment of the out-of-doors, the arts, music, entrepreneurship, civic responsibility and stewardship of our natural heritage. Cave Lake will strengthen and expand the base of effective family, organizational and community leadership across Ohio.

Alumni

Alumni bring commitment, experience and new support to all our youth programs. Our new Alumni Program offers many ways to stay involved, to share leadership advancing all our programs and to offer YLA experiences to many more young people.

Visit our website www.ylaleads.org, call 304-675-5899, or email yla@ylaleads.org for additional information or assistance with any of our programs.

server/tyjy/g/bill book sheets that change yearly / YLA summary sheet



United States of America – Preamble to the Constitution - 1787

We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this constitution for the United States of America.

Bill of Rights

The first ten Amendments to the Constitution of the United States Ratified effective December 15, 1791

Amendment I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Amendment II

A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

Article III

No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Amendment IV

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Amendment V

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb, nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation.

Amendment VI

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed; which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.

Amendment VII

In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right by a jury shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

Amendment VIII

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

Amendment IX

The enumeration in the Constitution of certain rights shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Amendment X

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

Constitution of West Virginia - Preamble

Since through Divine Providence we enjoy the blessings of civil, political and religious liberty, we, the people of West Virginia, in and through the provisions of this Constitution, reaffirm our faith in and constant reliance upon God and seek diligently to promote, preserve and perpetuate good government in the state of West Virginia for the common welfare, freedom and security of ourselves and our posterity.

Summary of Procedure

How a YLA Youth in Government "Bill" Becomes a "Law"

A Bill is a proposed law. Only legislative delegates can introduce Bills into the Student Legislature. A Bill must successfully complete the following steps to become a "law".

1. Be rated for position in the Bill Book.
2. Be assigned to a Committee for consideration and passed on to the Floor.
3. Be introduced on the Floor of the House or the Floor of the Senate of its origin and passed.
4. Be signed by the Governor.

STEP 1 - BILL RATING

Bills are rated on a scale of 1-75 points (see How to Write a Bill). Each Bill is given a number and is considered in its numerical order both in Committee and on the Floor. Before each Legislative Session, the Order of the Day is re-arranged with the highest ranked Bills considered first.

STEP 2 - COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

Bills are assigned to a Committee other than the author's. To speak for their Bill, the authors appear before the Committee hearing their Bill. Legislative Committees give each Bill a complete hearing and determine the Bills reported out to the House or Senate and to prepare Committee members to take an active part in Floor debate.

STEP 3 - FLOOR CONSIDERATION

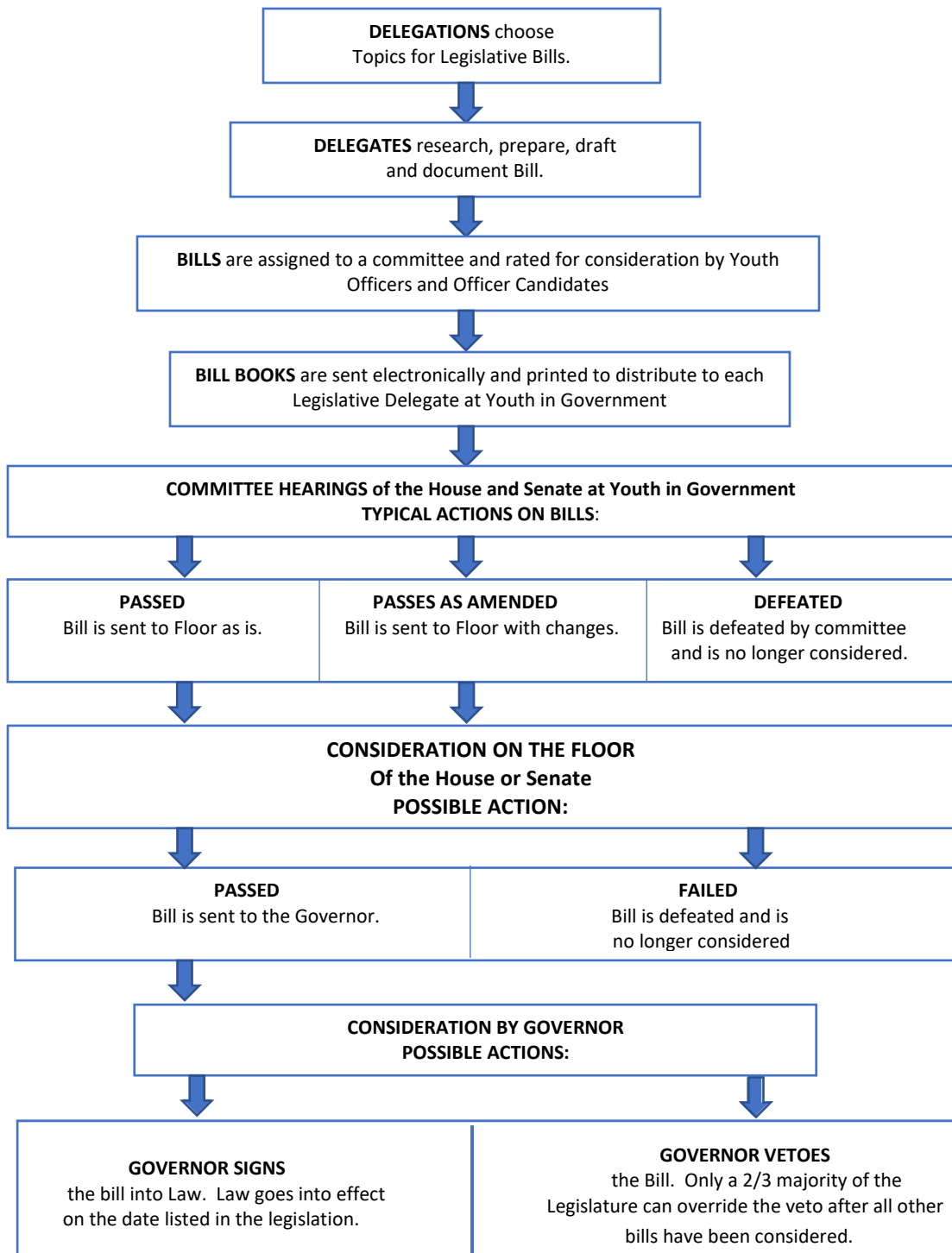
Bills reported out of Committee are scheduled for consideration by the House or Senate. Time may not allow consideration of all Bills referred to the Legislature. Those Bills passed by the House or Senate are then sent to the Governor.

STEP 4 - GOVERNOR CONSIDERATION

Bills passed by both the House or Senate are sent to the Governor. The Governor may sign or veto the legislation.



How a Bill Becomes Law at the Student Legislature



Committees

Committees are the first to consider proposed legislation.

Committees accomplish three (3) tasks

1. Committees decide what legislation is sent to the House or Senate.

Committees give each Bill a complete and respectful hearing including presentations by Authors, Cabinet, and Lobbyists as well as a thorough discussion and debate by all Committee members.

The procedure Committees use is somewhat different than that used by the Legislature. Please read both procedures carefully. Since Committees are smaller groups than a legislature, they do not need all the procedures required by a legislature. Committees are only as formal as needed to effectively get their work done.

Committees work to send good legislation to the floor. If a Bill is a good idea but needs improved, then amend it. ***Bills rated # 1 - 5 should pass Committee as student Committee Chairs, Vice Chairs, legislative leaders and candidates rated these the best bills to improve our state. There is no reason to kill them in Committee.***

2. Committees prepare their members to take the lead on the floor to pass (majority of the members) or defeat (minority of the members) legislation the Committee sends to the floor.

It is the responsibility of the Committee sending legislation to the floor to have all their members take an active role in floor discussion and debate of the Bill.

3. Committees clearly and completely inform members of the Legislature what the Committee found out about the Bill, why it should be passed (majority) and why it should be defeated (minority).

The Majority and Minority Reports inform the Legislature of the content of the Committee's consideration of the Bill, tell the Legislature the answers to any significant questions asked the Authors, give the Legislature any significant information provided by the Authors, Cabinet or Lobbyists, and explain why the Bill should pass (majority) or be defeated (minority).

The time for questions is in Committee. The Legislature has very limited time for questions (actually only three questions) as their time needs to be in considering the Bill . . . discussion, statement of positions, debate.

Committee Members and Chairpersons are Responsible Individually and as a Group to:

Participate

- Every member participates
- Everyone creates a positive atmosphere that encourages involvement by everyone
- Every member helps everyone else do their best
- Every member sits in a different chair beside different people at each committee meeting

Be Prepared

- Know and understand the procedure and use it
- Understand and be informed on the legislation in your Committee before YG

Be Respectful, Extend Courtesy to Everyone

- Show respect for the Committee, the room and its equipment, Authors, Lobbyists, Cabinet, Advisor
- Be informed on the subject of the Bill
- Consider the merits of the Bill, listen with full attention

Bill Authors, Lobbyists and Cabinet

- Ask permission of the Chair to appear before the Committee
- Know when to appear in Committee and be on time
- Respond to questions when asked
- Remember, the final decision on legislation is the Committee's

Advisors

- Advisors are in Committee to help on procedure. Benefit from their knowledge and experience.

Presence of Authors, Cabinet and Lobbyists

- Authors give their testimony before any given by others
- When testimony is complete and Committee questions have been answered these persons may leave or may stay for the Committee's consideration of the Bill. While these persons may not ask to join in the Committee's consideration of the Bill, they may respond to questions if asked by the Committee. Committees would be wise to remember these persons know the most about the proposed legislation and are a valuable source of information on the Bill.
- Authors, Cabinet and Lobbyists who may still be in the Committee leave for Bill's final consideration and the vote.

Inform the Authors

- The Committee tells the Authors the vote on the Bill by giving them a completed Form Z.

What is Done with Similar Bills?

- Bills on the same topic are often presented. Committees consider them separately on their own merits.

Scheduling Committee Time

1. Committees meet for the total time assigned each session.
2. The Committee's time in each session is managed to accomplish three (3) things:
 - To consider Bills and determine those to be sent to the floor;
 - To prepare complete reports to the Legislature on the Committee's consideration of each

Bill sent to the floor including information learned during the testimony, answers to significant questions, and why the Committee wants the Bill passed by the Legislature (majority) or defeated (minority);

- To prepare every Committee member to participate in the Legislature's consideration of Bills sent to the House or Senate. Committees are to go on the floor with their members ready to get the Bill passed (majority) or defeated (minority).

3. Bills are assigned a time (session) so Authors, Cabinet and Lobbyists know when to appear in Committee. The assigned Bill times cannot be changed. If Authors, Lobbyists or Cabinet are unable to appear before Committee at that time, the Bill will be considered without them.
4. Bills not completed in the session they are assigned, may be carried over to the next Committee session.
5. Committees may not go ahead in the schedule to consider Bills scheduled for a later session of the Committee.
6. By the end of the final Committee, all Bills have had a complete hearing by their Committee.

Committee Procedure

****Before going to committee, the Chair picks the bills up from the Bill Coordinator.**

1. The Chair welcomes everyone to the meeting and introduces anyone there to give testimony.
2. The Clerk (or Vice Chair) reads the Bill
3. The Authors present their Bill, explain why it is important for the state and should be passed, and answer any questions the Committee may have.
4. Lobbyists and Governor's Cabinet testify on the Bill and answer questions.
5. The Committee discusses the Bill, asks any questions to the Bill experts - Authors, Cabinet, Lobbyist - debates.

Chairpersons may find it helpful to hold their comments until later in the discussion so that other Committee members voice their views.

6. Amendments to strengthen and/or clarify the Bill are made at any time in the discussion. Amendments cannot change the intent of the Bill.
7. The Committee discusses, questions and debates to reach its decision. Committee members support legislation they believe is best for the people of the state. Legislation is not sent to the floor just because it will be a good debate. Legislatures exist to make serious decisions, not to entertain their members.
8. When the discussion/debate is complete, take the vote. A simple majority is required. The presiding person (Chair) does not vote except to break a tie.
9. After the vote, the Committee
Prepares accurate and complete reports (majority and minority) for the Legislature that also give - reasons the Committee wants the Bill passed (majority) or defeated (minority).
 - Prepares Committee members to fully participate in the floor consideration of the Bill.
 - Be certain that each Committee member has a role for the debate on the floor. Assign a point, pro and con, etc. so every member participates on the floor.

Possible Motions in Committee

1. To recommend a Bill without amendments out of Committee to the House or Senate, a member says, "I move this Bill reported to pass." If passed, the Bill goes to the House or Senate of its origin.
2. To amend a Bill, the motion is, "I move the following amendment . . . "

The author of the amendment gives it in writing to the Clerk (or Vice Chair) who reads the amendment. If adopted, the Clerk reads the amended Bill to be sure it is accurate. The amendment is then attached to the Bill and the Bill is considered in Committee as amended.

Amendments may not change the intent or meaning of the Bill. While authors do not have to agree to the amendment, they are to be informed of the amendment.

Riders to Bills are not permitted.

3. To recommend an amended Bill for passage, the motion is, "I move that this Bill be passed, as amended."

Committee Chairpersons

Senate Chairs have been appointed by and are responsible to the President of the Senate and House Chairs the Speaker of the House. Chairs who do not carry out their responsibilities may be removed by their President or Speaker.

Vice Chairs are appointed by the President and Speaker. In Committees without a Vice Chair, the Chair may appoint a committee member to serve as Vice Chair. Bill partners are not to be Chairs as they both would leave the Committee to testify on their Bill.

Responsibilities of the Chair

At the First Meeting

- See that members can see each other
- Do introductions and "get acquainted" activities (avoid use of candy, food, or drinks as a get acquainted). Include the Committee Advisor in the get acquainted.
- Explain the purpose of the Committee and how it works (review previous pages) and do a practice Bill to give everyone experience in the procedure.
- Review the schedule, explain the order of Bills and how the Committee's time is used.

The Chair and all Members are Responsible for the Care and Protection of their Committee Room

- Explain the use of the Committee room is a privilege given by the actual Committee Chairperson and review how we are to care for the room (no candy, food or drinks; do not move papers or materials left by Legislators, avoid playing with microphones, clean up after each session, etc.)

The Chair

*Gets the bill from the Bill Coordinator before each Committee meeting & returns them with a verbal report to the Bill Coordinator before going into the Chamber session..

- Acts and speaks in a way that helps everyone in the Committee succeed, involves everyone and gives Authors, Lobbyists and Cabinet a respectful experience.
- Represents the Committee to the Bill Coordinator. The Chair picks up the Committee folder from the Bill Coordinator before each Committee meeting and returns the folder to the Bill Coordinator immediately after the meeting and verbally tells the Coordinator the action taken on each bill.
- Has the Clerk or Vice Chair take attendance at each meeting.
- Manages time so the three tasks of the Committee are accomplished.
- Has the Committee meet for the total time and does not dismiss early.
- Considers Bills in numerical order as listed inside the front cover of the Committee Folder. Once a Bill is considered, draw a line through the Bill number.
- Manages amendment made in Committee. Amendments are made in writing and, if passed, attached to the Bill by paper clip. Do not write on the original Bill. Amendments note the line(s) being altered. Note on the Bill Disposition sheet the Bill is amended and if passed and, if passed, passed as amended. Amendments cannot change the intent of the Bill.
- Completes the Committee portion of the Bill Disposition sheet.
- Assures that the Majority and Minority reports are written to accurately inform the Legislature on what the Committee learned about the Bill, why the Committee took the action it did and the Committee's reasons for the Legislature to pass (majority) or defeat (minority) the Bill.
- Prepares all Committee members to actively participate in floor debate on Bills the Committee reports out to the Legislature.
- Leads the Committee member participation in floor debate.

Responsibilities of Committee Advisors

- Be present. Don't be on your phone or computer. Help the Chair keep the process on schedule and the committee members focused on the task at hand.
- Committee Advisors assist with procedure and the Committee process. They may be asked for advice before, during or after Committee sessions. Chairs are to meet with the Committee Advisor after each session to get their observations and suggestions.
- Advisors do not comment on the content or idea of legislation nor are they to influence voting on issues.
- Advisors may have a few minutes at the end of each committee to engage the group in a review of how the committee did and what would make the next meeting even more successful.

A Note to Bill Authors

Please remember that our purpose at Youth in Government is to adopt legislation that will benefit our state. Our time is limited, opinions among delegates vary, and very few proposals will be sent to the Governor. The Governor may sign or veto legislation. In our democracy the Executive is one of the three branches of government. Each branch is part of a system of "checks and balances." As part of this system, the Governor may veto even popular legislation if, in the Governor's judgment, it is not good for our state.

Participate in Youth in Government to do your best. Doing your best needs to be the "reward" you seek. The most to expect for your legislation is a complete hearing in Committee. Your Bill may be heard on the Floor and a few Bills will be sent to the Governor. The Governor may sign some of them. If your Bill is defeated in Committee, the Legislature, or is vetoed, be prepared to take that decision with good grace and not develop a personal vendetta against legislators or the Governor. Realize your Bill had its chance and now others are to have their chance.

Work to do your best and to help others do their best too!



YOUTH GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE PROCEDURES

BEFORE EACH MEETING

Chairman picks up committee folder from Bill Coordinator
1st committee meeting
Introductions and Get Acquainted
Review Committee Procedures
Practice with a provided Practice Bill

WELCOME

Clerk or Vice Chair reads order of the day
Clerk or Vice Chair takes attendance
Committee Chair introduces all guests and sends for bill authors

COMMITTEE PROCEDURE

Clerk or Vice Chair reads the Bill
Authors give Opening Statements
Governor's Cabinet and then Lobbyists testimony on the Bill and then answer questions

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

Questions may be asked of Bill Authors, Lobbyists, and Governor's Cabinet
Committee members speak for or against the bill

AMENDMENTS

May not change the intent of the Bill
Authors should be present and approve amendments
Committee Chair fills out the Bill Form
If an amendment is proposed, discuss the amendment and hold a vote for the amendment
If an amendment is adopted, attach the amendment form to the Bill

AFTER QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

Bill Authors give Closing Statements and return to their Committees
Hold a Caucus for members to discuss if the bill is good for the people of the state

HOLD A VOTE

Chair asks the committee if they are for or against passing the Bill to the Floor
The Vice Chair or Clerk records the vote

AFTER VOTE IS TAKEN

Prepare Bill Disposition Report
Have a Page deliver the Z form to authors
Bill Passes: prepare majority and minority reports
Bill Passes: Chairperson prepares members to take an active role in the floor session consideration

ADJOURN

Chairperson entertains a motion to adjourn
Once adjourned, Chairperson and Committee Advisor compare notes on what went well and what can be done to make the next meeting more effective
Chairperson takes Committee Folder back to Bill Coordinator noting which bills passed or failed



YOUTH GOVERNMENT FLOOR PROCEDURES

BEFORE EACH SESSION

Clerk picks up Calendar from Bill Coordinator
1st Floor Session:
Review Floor Procedures
Practice with a provided Practice Bill
Then, proceed with the first Bill in the Calendar

PRESIDING OFFICER CALLS TO ORDER

Gavel and state "By the authority invested in me, I declare this House (Senate) in session"
Call upon the Chaplain to deliver his/her message
Call upon the Clerk to read the order of the day. Bills passed from the opposing chamber start the order of the day.

READING OF THE BILL

Presiding Officer: "We are now ready for the third reading of the Bill."
Clerk reads the number, author, title, full text of the bill, and approved amendments
"The question is shall this Bill pass?"
Call upon the authors to give their opening statements and minority/majority reports

QUESTIONS AND DEBATE

The Presiding Officer begins, "The question is shall this bill pass? Is there a speech in favor or opposition?"
Delegates may ask if the authors yield to a question. Delegates should address the Presiding Officer when speaking.

AMENDMENTS

Amendments on the Floor are allowed. Members wanting to amend the Bill currently on the floor must obtain and amendment form to write their amendment on and send it to the Clerk. It is then the members' responsibility to seek recognition from the Presiding Officer once the amendment has reached the Clerk's desk. Only then can any action be taken on the amendment. Once the member is recognized by the Presiding Officer and the Clerk reads the amendment from this time on until a vote is taken on the amendment, all remarks and questions are directed to the amendment and the amendment authors, not the Bill as a whole. Following the vote, the debate returns to the Bill.

AFTER QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

Presiding Officer is responsible to manage the time for the consideration of each Bill. Try to limit question to 3 per Bill. After you feel the Bill has been debated sufficiently then move on to the Authors closing statements.

HOLD A VOTE

Presiding officer will then say, "The question is, shall the Bill pass?" All those in favor of the Bill, please stand."
A count is made recorded by the Clerk.
The Presiding Officer then says, "Those opposed to passage of the Bill, please stand." Again, a count is recorded.
If the majority favors the Bill, the Presiding Officer says, "I declare this Bill passes." If the majority is opposed, the Presiding Officer says, "I declare this Bill failed of passage."

AFTER THE VOTE

Once a Bill is declared passed or failed the Clerk is to fill out the Bill Disposition Record attached to the Bill, sign it, and have the Presiding Officer also sign. At the end of the Floor Session the Clerk takes the "Calendar" folder back to the Bill Coordinators office.

Parliamentary Procedure for the Student Legislature

Organizations use Roberts Rules of Order, other standard rules of order or adopt their own. Youth in Government has adopted its own Rules of Order.

YG rules allow as much time as possible on proposed legislation rather than on parliamentary procedure and recognize that three days make it impossible to completely follow the rules of the actual House and Senate.

All the information needed to consider a Bill in the Student Legislature is in the next few pages. Every delegate has equal access to these rules. Changes are not made during YG. Proposed changes suggested by YG Officers may be made at their annual planning session at June's YLA Leadership Summit for inclusion in the next program YG Manual.

Committees carefully consider Bills on their merit and select those for the Legislature that offer an opportunity to improve our state.

The number of Bills some years allows consideration by both the House and Senate. A Bill first passed in one will then be considered by the other. The second hearing will only be on the Floor and will include the Authors. Bills passed in both or one legislative body will be sent to the Youth Governor. Obviously those passed by both the House and Senate will have more weight when considered by the Youth Governor.

Procedure

Order of the Day

- ◆ The "Calendar" at the Bill Coordinator's Office provides the order of business before the House and Senate. The "Order of the Day" is also read by the Clerk before each session starts. The Calendar cannot be changed.
- ◆ The Bill Coordinator serves as the Youth in Government Rules Committee. Bills are assigned to Committees and, when passed by Committee, put on the House or Senate Calendar only by the Bill Coordinator. If a Committee combines two or more Bills, they create a new Bill. This new Bill must be assigned a number and a Committee by the Bill Coordinator.
- ◆ Committees and the Legislature only consider Bills given them by the Bill Coordinator. The order Bills are considered is the numerical order they appear in the Bill Book as determined by the rating of Bills by the Legislative Officers, Committee Chairpersons, and Officer Candidates in February. This advance rating also serves to provide as much time as possible to consider Bills during YG. The Student Legislature cannot suspend the rules to change the order of consideration.

Each Bill is considered separately. Several Bills cannot be grouped together for consideration or voting.

Call to Order

- ◆ At the opening of each session, the Presiding Officer uses the gavel and states, "By the authority vested in me, I declare the House (Senate) in session."
- ◆ The Presiding Officer calls upon the Chaplain to deliver a message.
- ◆ The Presiding officer calls upon the Clerk to read the "Order of the Day."
- ◆ Bills passed from the opposite Chamber coming in, will take precedence in the "Order of the Day".

Reading of the Bill

The Presiding Officer says, "We are now ready for the third reading of the Bill."

The Clerk reads the Bill that appears at the top of the Order. The Clerk reads the number, author, title, the full text of the Bill, and any amendments approved by Committee.

Author's Statement

- ◆ At the conclusion of the reading of the Bill, the Presiding Officer says, "The question is, shall the Bill pass?" The authors may make their opening statement.
- ◆ The authors, combined, have three minutes to explain their Bill, present a strong case for the Legislature to pass their Bill, and move its adoption. The authors may share the time. The Author, who speaks last at the end of their presentation, moves the adoption of the Bill and urges members to support the Bill.

Committee Reports

- ◆ The Presiding Officer will ask for the Majority and Minority Reports from the Committee that considered the Bill.
- ◆ The members presenting the Majority and Minority Report are to give a complete summary to the Legislature of the Committee consideration of the Bill and why the Bill should be passed (Majority Report) and why it should be defeated (Minority Report).

Seeking Recognition

- ◆ Members seek recognition after the Presiding Officer has said, "The question is, shall the Bill pass?"
- ◆ To be recognized, a member stands at their desk. Once a member has been recognized, all others must be seated until there is another opportunity to be recognized.
- ◆ The member who was recognized must remain standing and address the Presiding Officer as "Mr. Speaker" (House) or "Mr. President" (Senate) before making statements or asking the Presiding Officer's help in asking a question of the Bill authors. If a woman is presiding, the prefix is "Madame" instead of "Mister."

Statements and Debate by Members

- ◆ Once the authors have spoken and moved the adoption of their Bill, and the Committee Majority and Minority Reports have been given, the Presiding Officer says, "The question is, shall the Bill pass?" At this time any member may speak by obtaining recognition from the Presiding Officer.
- ◆ Statements by members, speaking in support or in opposition to the Bill, take most of the time. Members speak on the issue. Members do not make personal remarks about other members of the Legislature.
- ◆ When members speak in support or opposition to a Bill, they say, "Mr. (or Madame) Speaker

(or President), I speak in favor (or opposition) of this Bill because . . . (give reasons you support or oppose the Bill) and urge others to vote for (or against) the Bill.

- ◆ Statements of support or opposition are not taken in any order. Whoever gets the floor may speak even if more than one pro or con speaker follows another.
- ◆ If there are many speeches, the Presiding Officer may rule that all speeches must be kept within a time limit and/or that no member may speak more than once until all others who want to speak have done so.

Asking Questions of the Authors

- ◆ Authors of a bill may be questioned by another member. The authors are not required to yield to a question.
- ◆ The time for questions is limited to **three (3) questions**. Most time is spent with statements by members supporting or opposing Bills.
- ◆ Asking questions of an author gives the author a chance to respond. Members who oppose a Bill will find direct statements a better way to oppose the Bill.
- ◆ Members request permission of the authors, through the Presiding Officer, to ask a question. After being recognized, the member says, "Mr. (Madame) President (Speaker), will the author yield to a question?" The Presiding Officer will then ask the same question of the authors and then deliver their reply to the member.
- ◆ **Each** member is **limited to one question** until all members who want to have asked a question.
- ◆ When asking questions, members are to be brief and only ask their question. Statements are not to be made.

Motion to Amend

- ◆ Amendments are made in writing on the amendment form. The member sends the amendment to the Clerk via a Page.
- ◆ Amendments indicate the line(s) to be amended by placing quotation marks around the amended language, and using wording such as "delete" and "add."
- ◆ All amendments must be signed by the author of the amendment.
It is the responsibility of the author of the amendment to seek recognition from the Presiding Officer once the amendment has reached the Clerk's desk. Only then can any action be taken on the amendment.
- ◆ Once recognized, the member says, "Mr. /Madame Speaker (President), I have an amendment before the Floor.
- ◆ The Presiding Officer then instructs the Clerk to read the amendment. From this time until a vote is taken on the amendment, all remarks are directed to the amendment, not the Bill as a whole. Questions related to the amendment are asked of the authors of the amendment.
- ◆ The author of the amendment speaks first. The authors of the Bill then have two minutes to comment on the amendment.
- ◆ Before voting on the amendment, the author of the amendment has one minute to make a closing statement. A simple majority is needed for passage of the amendment. Voting may be by voice vote or by a standing vote.

Following the vote, the debate returns to the Bill.

- ◆ Amendments are best handled in Committees although they may be attempted on the Floor. Time devoted to amendments on the floor is to be kept to a minimum.
- ◆ Amendments cannot change the intent of the Bill
- ◆ Riders to Bills are not accepted.

Motion to Refer to Committee

- ◆ Many amendments proposed during legislative debate may indicate the Committee needs to take another look at the Bill.
- ◆ If this occurs, a motion to “refer to Committee” may be in order. This motion must be seconded and then can be debated. A simple majority is needed for passage.
- ◆ Upon approval of the motion, the Bill is sent back to its Committee for further work and reconsideration. This Bill becomes the first item of business in the next Committee session.

Voting Procedures

- ◆ The Presiding Officer is responsible to manage the time for the consideration of each Bill. The Presiding Officer has flexibility to allow more time to consider a Bill that generates a lot of interest and debate and to allow less time for a Bill that does not or clearly has significant support or opposition. The Presiding Officer will also end consideration of Legislation when discussion or debate becomes repetitive.

Prior to ending consideration of a Bill, the Presiding Officer will announce only one (or two) more pro and con statements from Legislators will be recognized.

The Presiding Officer takes the initiative in calling the vote. The motion of “Previous question”, used to end debate, is not an acceptable motion made from the Floor.

- ◆ Prior to voting, the authors (combined) have up to three minutes to make a closing statement and to urge the Legislature to support their Bill.
- ◆ The Presiding Officer will then say, “The question is, shall the Bill pass? All those in favor of the Bill, please stand.” A count is made and recorded by the Clerk.
- ◆ The Presiding Officer then says, “Those opposed to passage of the Bill, please stand.” Again, a count is made and recorded.
- ◆ When voting on the final passage of the Bill, the vote must be a standing vote. For the purposes of YLA Youth in Government, the majority (constitutional majority) needed to pass legislation is one more than half of those voting.
- ◆ Abstentions are not asked for nor are they recorded. If a member abstains from voting, they must leave the Floor during the vote. All members remaining on the Floor are assumed to be voting.
- ◆ If the majority favors the Bill, the Presiding Officer says, “I declare this Bill passed.” If the majority is opposed, then the Presiding Officer says, “I declare this Bill failed of passage.” There is no emergency legislation in Youth in Government.
- ◆ After a Bill is declared passed, the Clerk will read the Bill by number and title in the event any changes should be made to the title. The Presiding Officer will then say, “Without objection, the title is agreed to.” The Presiding Officer then moves on to the next order of business.

Other Possible Motions

- ◆ Division of the House. If after a voice vote a member wants to challenge the decision of the Presiding Officer, the member may call, without waiting for recognition, "Division of the House." After the motion receives approval of the Presiding Officer or by a simple majority of the members, the vote is retaken as a standing vote. Roll call votes, however, are not permitted at Youth in Government.
- ◆ Point of Order. This motion is used by a member to question the procedures of the Presiding Officer or another member has used or to seek clarification of procedures. Again, a member need not wait recognition to make this motion.

The Presiding Officer has the sole authority to accept or reject the motion. The Presiding Officer does not call Point of Order.

- ◆ Point of Personal Privilege. This motion is used by a member to bring the Presiding Officer's attention to a disturbance in the chamber or to request that a member, who is speaking, raise their voice to be heard more clearly. Again, the Presiding Officer rules on the motion.
- ◆ Motion to Recess. This motion is normally used to allow members to caucus for a few minutes. Recess is not the same as adjournment. All members are required to remain in the chamber and the Legislature must reconvene at some time before adjournment. This motion may be made by a member without being recognized but must be seconded. The motion and the length of time of the recess are not debatable. A simple majority is needed for approval of the motion. NOTE: This motion is rarely used because debate on it takes too much time and proves to be counterproductive.
- ◆ Removal. After giving a member a private and a public warning, the Presiding Officer has the power to expel a member whose behavior is inappropriate for the Legislature. Circumstances that may lead to a member's expulsion include, but are not limited to:
 - inappropriate attire
 - not wearing their official name tag
 - great disregard for the procedure of the Legislature
 - interfering in or obstructing the proceedings

The Presiding Officer may have the official Sergeant-At-Arms expel the member.

- ◆ Suspension of the Rules. For the purposes of YLA Youth in Government, a motion to "Suspend the Rules" cannot be used to alter the legislative calendar, the dress and conduct rules, the conference's pre-printed agenda, the procedures of the Model Legislature, or the rules of YLA Youth in Government.

Procedure for the Governor's Office

- ◆ Once a Bill is passed, the Clerk takes it to the Bill Coordinator who records it. When action is taken on the Bill by the Governor, the Bill is returned to the Bill Coordinator who records the Governor's action.
- ◆ An attempt to override the Governor's veto may be considered after action has been taken on all Bills before the Model Legislature.

Our purpose is to allow as many authors as possible to present their Bill to the Model Legislature rather than focus on overriding the Governor's veto.

A Senator or Delegate (not the Bill's author) offer a motion from the Floor (after being recognized) to consider overriding the veto. The Presiding Officer has the Clerk read the Bill.

- ◆ The Presiding Officer, in presenting vetoed Bill, says, "The question is, shall the Bill pass, notwithstanding the objections of the Governor?" The author of the Bill then, once recognized by the Presiding Officer, may proceed to speak for passage of their Bill. The Governor or the Governor's representative may speak for four minutes on the vetoed Bill. A two-thirds majority of the House or Senate is required to override a Governor's veto.
- ◆ The Governor is to sign or veto all Bills passed by the Legislature. No Bills are to be left unsigned at the closing of the final joint session.
- ◆ The Governor is part of the "checks and balance" system of our government. The Governor must carry out the constitutional mandate to act on legislation. The Governor cannot "rubber stamp" legislative acts of the Legislature.

Youth Governor and Governor's Cabinet

Cabinet members represent the Governor's interests to Committees and with Legislators. Cabinet members listen to Committee hearings and floor debates in their area of interest, act as the Governor's advocate on related legislation, and report to and advise the Governor on legislation that reaches the Governor's desk.

Cabinet members are available to advise legislators on the Governor's position on legislation. Legislators may find Cabinet members helpful in understanding YG procedures. Cabinet members are available to listen and help legislators. Just ask.

Cabinet members may speak to Committees on legislators and may speak with legislators outside Committee and floor sessions. Cabinet members may not speak on the floor of the House or Senate.

Cabinet members represent the Governor's position on the legislation listed below. The Governor's position on Legislation is indicated so sponsors of legislation may provide information to Cabinet member and to the Governor in their work to gain the Governor's support.

Governor & Cabinet's Position

Governor & Cabinet's Position on House Bills					
Bill Number	Member/Position	Bill Number	Member/Position	Bill Number	Member/Position
House 1	Arthur – For	House 2	Cook – Against	House 3	Niggemyer – For
House 4	Arthur – Against	House 5	Niggemyer - For	House 6	Jennings - Against
House 7	Jennings – For	House 8	Cook – For	House 9	Cook - Against
House 10	Ballard – For	House 11	Cook - For	House 12	Jennings - For
House 13	Flora – Against	House 14	Cook – For	House 15	Arthur - For
House 16	Cook – Against	House 17	Ballard – For	House 18	Flora - Against
House 19	Arthur – Against	House 20	Jennings – Against	House 21	Flora - Against
House 22	Flora - Against				

Governor & Cabinet's Position on Senate Bills					
Bill Number	Member/Position	Bill Number	Member/Position	Bill Number	Member/Position
Senate 1	Niggemyer – For	Senate 2	Arthur - For	Senate 3	Ballard - Against
Senate 4	Flora – For	Senate 5	Jennings – For	Senate 6	Niggemyer - For
Senate 7	Niggemyer – For	Senate 8	Arthur – Against	Senate 9	Not attending YG
Senate 10	Niggemyer – For	Senate 11	Not attending YG	Senate 12	Cook - Against
Senate 13	Jennings – Against	Senate 14	Niggemyer – For	Senate 15	
Senate 16	Ballard – Against	Senate 17	Arthur – Against	Senate 18	Ballard - Against
Senate 19	Flora - Against				

Lobbyist Delegates

Lobbyists represent special interests. Lobbyist work to PERSUADE Legislative Delegates to amend, support, or oppose bills. These delegates work independently and in groups of other Lobbyists who share similar and group interests. Youth in Government Lobbyists work to influence 5 - 10 pieces of legislation and may join with other Lobbyists to work on other legislation.

Lobbyists may appear before committees to testify on legislation by arranging with the Chair a time on the committee's agenda. Lobbyists may also "lobby" legislators at other times in the State House, Lobbyists may not speak on the Floor of the House or Senate. Lobbyists may present their case to the Governor's Cabinet, Officers, Youth in Government Press, and the Youth Governor.

The following chart indicates bills to be lobbied by each Lobbyist Delegate.

2024 Bills and Lobbyist Positions

Lobbyist Position on House Bills					
Bill Number	Lobbyist/Position	Bill Number	Lobbyist/Position	Bill Number	Lobbyist/Position
House 1	Lundy -	House 2	Wellman - For	House 3	Lane -
House 4	Wellman - For	House 5	Lundy -	House 6	Cross - For
House 7	Brubaker - For	House 8	Cross - For	House 9	Lane -
House 10	Lane -	House 11		House 12	Cross - For
House 13	Wellman - For	House 14	Brubaker - For	House 15	Lundy -
House 16	Brubaker - Against	House 17	Lane -	House 18	Lundy -
House 19	Lane -	House 20	Cross - For	House 21	Wellman - Against
House 22					
Lobbyist Position on Senate Bills					
Senate 1	Brubaker - For	Senate 2	Cross - For	Senate 3	Brubaker - For
Senate 4		Senate 5		Senate 6	Lane -
Senate 7	Lundy -	Senate 8	Wellman - For	Senate 9	Not attending YG
Senate 10	Cross - For	Senate 11	Not attending YG	Senate 12	Wellman - Against
Senate 13	Lundy -	Senate 14		Senate 15	Lane -
Senate 16	Cross - For	Senate 17		Senate 18	Brubaker - Against
Senate 19					

Legislative Schedule

Day & Time	SENATE		HOUSE		
	Com 1	Com 2	Com 1	Com 2	Com 3
Thursday					
3:00 – 3:15	Legislative Instructions in the House Chamber				
3:25 – 3:45	Committee Orientation		Committee Orientation		
3:45 – 4:00	A	B	C	D	E
4:00 – 4:20	1	2	1	2	3
4:30 – 5:20	Each Chamber Practice Session & Floor Session for Legislation Consideration				
5:30	Return to the Hotel – meet at the Bus Loop Culture Center side				
Friday					
8:45 – 9:00	4	3	6	5	4
9:00 – 9:15	5	6	7	8	*10
9:25 – 10:30	Senate in Session		House in Session		
10:40 – 10:55	8	7	12	11	*9
10:55 – 11:10	*13	*10	13	14	15
11:20 – 12:20	Senate in Session		House in Session		
12:20 – 1:45	Lunch on your own				
1:45 – 2:05	Group Picture – steps in front of Capitol				
2:10 – 2:25	*12	14	18	17	16
2:25 – 2:40	16	15			22
2:50 – 4:50	Senate in Session		House in Session		
5:00	Return to the Hotel – meet at the Bus Loop Culture Center side				
Saturday					
8:15 – 8:30	17	18	19	20	21
8:30 -8:45	Pass out and complete Exit Surveys				
8:45	Pass out Election Ballots – DO NOT VOTE IN COMMITTEE				
8:55 – 10:15	Final Senate Floor Session to Consider Legislation		Final House Floor Session to Consider Legislation		
10:15 – 10:50	Election of Senate Officers		Election of House Officers		
11:00	Joint Session in the House Chambers to elect Youth Governor and Closing				
12:00	Return to the Hotel – meet in the Bus Loop				

WEST VIRGINIA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

SIXTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL

STUDENT LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION – 2024

A RESOLUTION

TO THANK THE WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE FOR THE USE OF THEIR CHAMBERS.

WHEREAS: The Legislature of the State of West Virginia has provided for the YLA Youth in Government Program the ideal facilities for the Sixty-Seventh Student Legislature Regular Session 2024, and

WHEREAS: This authentic environment has afforded the delegates better understanding of our State Government, and,

WHEREAS: The members of the West Virginia Legislature have graciously given valuable time and effort to ensure the continuing success of the YLA Youth in Government Program;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

Section 1. The delegates and all those connected with the YLA Youth in Government Program do Express their heartiest appreciation and most sincere gratitude to the West Virginia Legislature for the privilege granted us.

Section 2. The delegates and all other persons connected with the YLA Youth in Government Program earnestly hope that the forthcoming Student Legislature will be afforded the same opportunity.

SIXTY-SEVENTH STUDENT LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION – 2024

A RESOLUTION

TO GRANT THE PRESS THE PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

WHEREAS: The Sixty-Seventh Annual YLA Student Legislature is convened on the twenty fifth day of April 2024, and

WHEREAS: It is customary and necessary that the representatives of the Press be given the privilege of the Floor so that the proceedings of this House can be reported easily and accurately to the people of West Virginia through the media of the Press, Television, Radio, and Social Media;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS STUDENT LEGISLATURE HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

The duly accredited members of the Student Legislature Press Delegation be granted the right to be on the Floor of the Legislative Chambers at all times for the purpose of Reporting the news of this House.

A BILL

SHOULD THERE BE THERAPY FOR CHILDREN WHOSE PARENTS ARE DRUG ADDICTS

To be added to Chapter 19 of the West Virginia State Code

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF WEST VIRGINIA

2 Section 1- (a) "therapy"- the treatment of physical and mental illness. (b) "substance abuse"-
3 overindulgence in or dependence on an addictive substance. (c) "chemically dependent"-
4 addiction to or dependence on drugs.(d) "drug" substance which has a physiological effect when
5 ingested or otherwise introduced into the body.

6 Section 2- The purpose of this bill is to provide anti-drug drug counseling for children whose
7 parents or caregivers are drug addicts. Children whose parents are chemically dependent, are
8 often in harm's way.

9 Section 3- By passing this bill West Virginia families with drug addiction issues would break the
10 generational cycle of addiction. The type of therapy that will be given is anti-drug counseling.
11 The treatment should begin when the child is in kindergarten.

12 Section 4- This bill will require funding from 2% of West Virginia lottery to pay the counselors
13 for sessions.

14 Section 5- This bill will go into effect on March 31 of 2019.

A BILL
MAKING IT ILLEGAL TO DRILL FOR OIL OR NATURAL GAS IN STATE PARKS

To be added to Chapter 20 of the West Virginia State Code

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

2 Section 1. (a) state park: an area of land that is owned and protected by a US state because of its
3 natural beauty or its importance in history (b) drilling: producing a hole in the ground or as if by
4 boring with a drill. (c) fracking: the process of injecting liquid at high pressure into subterranean
5 rocks, boreholes, etc., so as to force open existing fissures and extract oil or gas. (d) natural gas:
6 flammable gas, consisting largely of methane and other hydrocarbons, occurring naturally
7 underground and used as fuel. (e) oil: a viscous liquid derived from petroleum, especially for use as a
8 fuel or lubricant.

9 Section 2. The purpose of this bill is to ban the authorization of drilling for oil or natural gas on the
10 beautiful state parks of West Virginia.

11 Section 3. By passing this bill, West Virginia will ensure the preservation of our state parks. The
12 leading source of revenue in West Virginia comes from tourism. State parks help keep West Virginia
13 wild and wonderful. If we allow drilling in West Virginia state parks, it can destroy their value and
14 we could lose a vital source of income.

15 Section 4. This bill will not require any additional funding for the state of West Virginia.

16 Section 5. This bill will go into effect January 1, 2019.

A BILL
EXPULSION AND MANDATORY COUNSELING FOR ANYONE WHO
ENCOURAGES ANOTHER TO COMMIT SUICIDE

To be added to Chapter 18 of the West Virginia State Code.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

2. Section 1. (a) expulsion- the action of depriving someone from membership in an organization or
3. forcing someone to leave a place. (b) counseling- giving psychological help and advice to someone. (c)
4. suicide- the act of taking one's own life voluntarily or intentionally. (d) bullying- one using superior
5. strength to harass and intimidate someone to make them feel inferior or force to do what one wants.
6. Section 2. The purpose of this bill is to decrease suicide and suicide attempts, decrease bullying, draw
7. attention the issue of suicide, and to punish anyone who encourages another to take their own life by
8. automatic 1-year expulsion and provide them with 1-year mandatory counseling to get them the
9. psychological help and advice on how to treat others they need before returning to schooling the
10. following year.
11. Section 3. By passing this bill West Virginia would promote anti-suicide by setting consequences and
12. punishments for one who encourages another to commit suicide. Currently the teen suicide rate for
13. West Virginia is 313 deaths by suicide per 100,000, making 12.69% of teen death in West Virginia
14. suicides. If passed, this bill is expected to lead to a decrease in suicide rates.
15. Section 4. This bill will not require and additional funding.
16. Section 5. This bill will go into effect on August 1st, 2018.

A BILL
Offenses, and exempted behaviors for Medical cannabis

To amend bill §16-8A-14

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

2 Section 1. Definitions: a “physician” is a person who is licensed to practice medicine, or a person who is
3 skilled in healing. A “parent” is a father or mother. A “dispensary” is a room where medicines are prepared and
4 provided. A “medical facility” is a place where sick or injured people are given care or treatment. A “felony” is a
5 crime, typically one involving violence, regarded as more serious than a misdemeanor, and usually punishable
6 by imprisonment for more than one year or by death. A “dermatologist” is a medical practitioner qualified to
7 diagnose and treat skin diseases. A “gynecologist” is a person who works with the female reproductive
8 system.

9 Section 2. (a) The following persons when acting in strict compliance with the provisions of this article
10 are not subject to arrest, prosecution, civil or administrative penalty, including a civil penalty or disciplinary
11 action by a professional licensing board, or be denied any right or privilege, for:

12 (1) A qualifying patient in possession of more than four ounces of cannabis or two immature and two
13 mature cannabis plants grown by the patient.

14 (2) A grower licensed under section six of this article, or a grower agent registered under section six of
15 this article;

16 (3) A certifying physician not including gynecologists, and dermatologists;

17 (4) A parent or guardian who is carrying the cannabis for their child under the age of 18

18 (5) A dispensary licensed or a dispensary agent registered pursuant to this article;

19 (6) A processor licensed or a processor agent registered pursuant to this article; or

20 (7) A hospital, and medical facility, where a qualifying patient is receiving treatment.

21 Section 3. Any person who knowingly distributes, possesses with intent to distribute, possess or manufactures
22 cannabis that has been diverted in violation of the provisions of this article from a qualifying patient, licensed
23 grower, or licensed dispensary, is guilty of a felony and, upon conviction, shall be imprisoned in a state
24 correctional facility for not less than five nor more than ten years, and fined not more than \$5,500

25 Section 4. The offense set forth in this subsection is separate and distinct from other provisions of this code
26 prohibiting the manufacture, possession, or distribution of marijuana under this code.

27 This bill will go in effect on January 1st, 2019 after passage

A BILL
DEEMING THE TARGETING OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND FIRST
RESPONDERS AS A HATE CRIME

To be added to Chapter §61-6-21 of the West Virginia State Code

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

2 Section 1. (a) Law Enforcement Officer-an individual, with arrest powers, involved in crime or
3 juvenile delinquency control or reduction or enforcement of the laws. (b) First Responder-an
4 individual serving as an official recognized or designated member of a legally organized
5 volunteer fire department or an officially recognized or designated public employee member of a
6 rescue squad or ambulance crew. (c) Hate Crime-a crime motivated by racial, sexual, or other
7 prejudice, typically one involving violence.

8 Section 2. The purpose of this bill is to deem the targeting of on-duty law enforcement officers
9 and first responders as a hate crime. This will reestablish and maintain authority of law
10 enforcement officers by restoring the respect that has been diminished.

11 Section 3. By passing this bill, West Virginia would condemn the intentional violence towards
12 law enforcement officers and first responders. This will hopefully eliminate the crimes against
13 the officers and first responders who are only trying to do their jobs.

14 Section 4. This bill will not require additional funding.

2024 67th Annual WEST VIRGINIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



TOMORROW'S LEADERS
START TODAY

YOUTH LEADERSHIP ASSOCIATION

Youth Speaker of the House
Liam Savage

Preston YLA

APRIL 25⁴⁵-27, 2024

2023 WEST VIRGINIA YLA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT HOUSE COMMITTEES

HOUSE CHAMBER ADVISORS ~ JOSH GARY & JENNIFER EILER

Pages ~ Morgan Carlin, Ella Games, Logan Perdue

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Room 460M

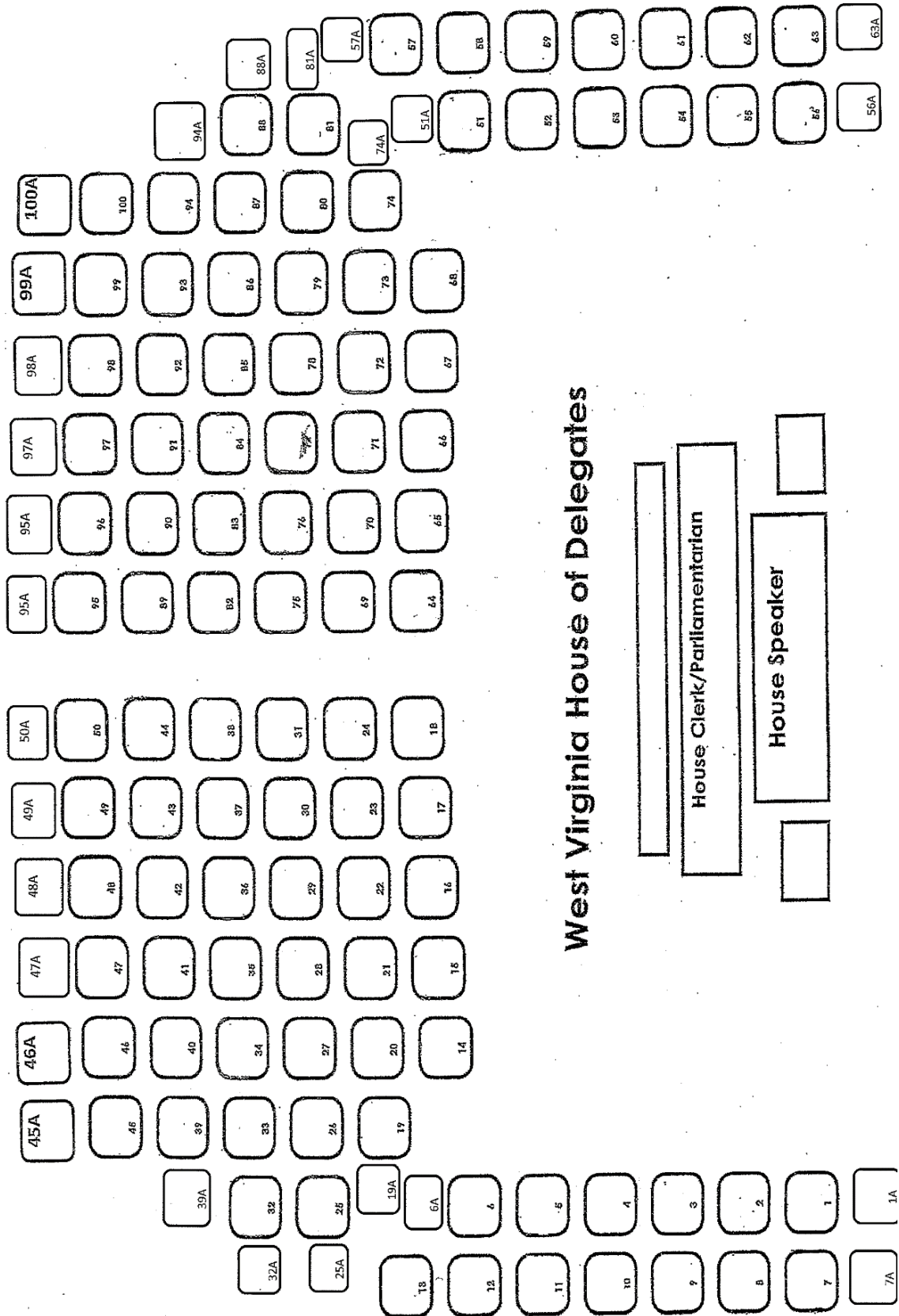
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LOUDIN**

House of Delegates



2024 WEST VIRGINIA YLA YOUTH in GOVERNMENT HOUSE BILLS

BILL #	TITLE	COM	DISPOSITION		
			COM	HOUSE FLOOR	GOV
1	To Expand Free and Reduced Cost Ambient Broadband for Public Access	H 01			
2	Require Schools to Carry Naloxone	H 02			
3	To Legalize Human Composting	H 03			
4	Law Enforcement Accountability & Universal Disciplinary Protocol Act	H 03			
5	Prohibit Flavored Vape Products	H 02			
6	Mandated School Resource Officer	H 01			
7	Mandating a Rotation of All WVSSAC State Championships	H 01			
8	To Add a Needle Exchange Program in Every County	H 02			
9	To Help Prevent the Use of Vapes and Other Nicotine Products in West Virginia High Schools	H 03			
10	Prohibiting People Over the Age 70 to Run For or Hold West Virginia State or Federal Government Positions	H 03			
11	Removing the Imposed Tax on Feminine Hygiene Products	H 02			
12	Youth Voices in the Education System Act	H 01			
13	The Traveling Wildlife Protection Act	H 01			
14	Homeless Housing Act	H 02			
15	Law Enforcement Body Camera Act	H 03			
16	Accurate Homelessness Reports in West Virginia	H 03			
17	To Mandate Athletic Trainers in All Secondary Schools	H 02			
18	To Forgive and Cease Interest on College Student Loans	H 01			
19	Making the Death Penalty Available for Cases Involving Murder	H 01			
20	To Mandate Retired Police Officer/Armed Security Guards to Every School in the State of West Virginia	H 02			
21	4 Day Work Week	H 03			
22	State Animal Act of 2024	H 03			

ACTION ON LEGISLATIVE BILLS DISPOSITION INDEX	
Died in Committee	D Com
Defeated in Committee	Com Def
Passed in Committee	PC
Passed as Amended in Committee	PAC
Died in Senate	DS
Died in House	DH
Senate Defeated	S Def
House Defeated	H Def
Passed Senate	PS
Passed House	PH
Passed as Amended in Senate	PAS
Passed as Amended in House	PAH
Governor Signed	GS
Governor Vetoed	GV
Unsigned By Governor	GU

**A BILL
TO EXPAND FREE AND REDUCED COST
AMBIENT BROADBAND FOR PUBLIC ACCESS**

To amend § 31G-1-1 of West Virginia State Code

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

2 Section 1. (a) “Ambient wireless broadband” means high-speed wireless internet service available for
3 public users throughout a locale at little to no cost to the user. (b) “Excise tax” means tax imposed on the
4 production or distribution of particular goods.

5 Section 2: To encourage the development of ambient wireless broadband in small communities and rural
6 areas to attract and retain innovators, entrepreneurs, families, remote workers, and community development.

7 Section 3: This legislation shall expand the mission and scope of the Office of Broadband to facilitate the
8 expansion and enhancement of ambient broadband access, particularly in smaller and rural communities
9 within the state.

10 Section 4: Funding shall come by increasing the excise tax on soft drinks by one cent for seventeen fluid
11 ounces sold within the state of West Virginia.

12 Section 5: This bill shall go into effect ninety days after passage.

A BILL
Require Schools to Carry Naloxone

"To be added to chapter §18-5-22 of the West Virginia State Code "

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

2 Section 1. Let “Naloxone” be described as a medication approved by the Food and Drug Administration
3 designed to rapidly reverse opioid overdose. Let “opioid” be described as a class of drugs that derive
4 from, or mimic, natural substances found in the opium poppy plant and are often prescribed as a pain
5 killer.

6 Section 2. The purpose of this bill is to require all schools in West Virginia to keep Naloxone in the
7 school building at all times. Schools are to have a minimum of 16mg on the school premises. It is
8 preferred and encouraged, but not required, for schools to carry the intranasal spray. The drug shall
9 either be stored in an area accessible to the administration and staff, or carried by a member of staff
10 who has received proper training in the administration of the drug such as a school nurse. Staff not
11 previously certified in naloxone administration shall receive training through courses already offered at
12 the school, or through an online training such as the Overdose Lifeline training. This bill shall not
13 change the preexisting drug policies in schools.

14 Section 3. Funding for this bill shall come from the West Virginia Department of Health and Human
15 Resources along with the support from preexisting naloxone distribution programs.

16 Section 4. This bill shall go into effect on August 1, 2024

A BILL

To Legalize Human Composting

To amend West Virginia code §16-5-23, §22-15-24, and §30-6 to include human composting

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

1 Section 1. (a) Let “human composting” be defined as natural organic reduction, or the process of
2 transforming human remains into nutrient-rich soil, which is then returned to the environment. (b) Let
3 “disposition” be defined as the manner in which a body is handled after death. (c) Let “cremation” be defined
4 as a method of final disposition of a corpse through burning, which causes significant carbon emissions.

5 Section 2. The purpose of this bill is to provide an alternative cost-efficient option for the disposition of
6 human remains. It is intended to decrease negative environmental impacts created by traditional burial and
7 cremation.

8 Section 3. The passage of this legislation will enact authorization and regulation of human composting
9 within West Virginia. The process includes placing the body in a reusable vessel with biodegradable
10 materials and grinding up the bones to be added back into the compost. It yields about one cubic yard of
11 fertilized soil, which can be used in gardens, conservation areas, or forests. In addition to allowing facilities
12 for human composting to be built in the state, operators of these facilities will be granted the same rights and
13 responsibilities as those of crematory establishments.

14 Section 4. The enactment of this bill requires no additional funding; however, existing funds for the WV
15 burial assistance program, outlined in §9-5-9, shall be extended to human composting. Through this
16 program, the state provides up to \$1,000 for those unable to afford funeral/burial expenses, which will now
17 include natural organic reduction.

18 Section 5. This bill shall go into effect 90 days following passage.

A BILL

Law Enforcement Accountability and Universal Disciplinary Protocol Act

To ensure that law enforcement officers are held accountable for misconduct and any violations of state code; to establish universal disciplinary protocol for all law enforcement agencies in West Virginia, to create a special Law Enforcement Accountability Commission that shall establish the rules, regulations, policies, procedures, and penalties for the violations of such regulations and rules, to create a statewide disciplinary database for all Law Enforcement officers in West Virginia, To require that such commission shall consist of seven people, four of which are career law enforcement officers, three of which are attorneys, To mandate that the newly created Law Enforcement Accountability Commission shall write tri-monthly reports in regards to disciplinary actions taken against Law Enforcement Officers that shall be delivered to the Office of the Attorney General of West Virginia, to prohibit law enforcement officers whom were terminated from their occupation from seeking employment in other Law Enforcement agencies from which they were not previously employed.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

Section 1. Definitions: Allow “law enforcement officer” to mean “any duly authorized member of a law enforcement agency who is authorized to maintain public peace and order, prevent and detect crime, make arrests and enforce the laws of the state or any county or municipality thereof.”

Allow “County” to mean “the 55 major political subdivisions of the State.” Allow “municipality” to mean “any incorporated town or city whose boundaries lie within the geographic boundaries of the state.”

Allow “Law Enforcement Accountability Commission” to mean “A group of 7 policy makers, four of which are career law enforcement officers, three of which are attorneys, who are tasked with creating rules, regulations, policies, procedures, and penalties for the violations of such regulations and rules.”

Allow “Statewide disciplinary database” to mean “A database in which all disciplinary actions taken against all Law Enforcement officers in the State of West Virginia must be uploaded to.”

Allow “Tri-monthly reports” to mean “Detailed reports that shall be written and released every three months.”

Section 2. Preamble: We, the Student Legislature of West Virginia, do hereby recognize that Law Enforcement Officers are dutiful employees of the State, County, or Municipality in which they reside and work. We, therefore, recognize the importance of ensuring that Law Enforcement Officers across the State of West Virginia are held accountable for misconduct in a manner that allows public safety to be the highest priority while also ensuring that such Law Enforcement agencies are properly provided with necessary training and tools. We recognize that many Law Enforcement Officers in West Virginia uphold the honorable standards in which they are expected to abide by, while also recognizing that the West Virginia State Police Scandal of 2023 also exposes a systemic issue of the lack of accountability for law enforcement officers in West Virginia. Therefore, we hereby establish the following.

Section 3. Establishment:

- a. A new Law Enforcement Accountability Commission shall be established in the State of West Virginia.
- b. The Law Enforcement Accountability Commission shall consist of seven members.
- c. Four of these members shall be career Law Enforcement Officers.
- d. Three of these members shall be attorneys who are in good standing with the West Virginia Bar Association.
- e. The Attorney General of West Virginia shall appoint these seven members.
- f. These seven members shall serve for a term of four years.
- g. The Law Enforcement Accountability Commission shall be tasked with creating rules, regulations, policies, procedures, and penalties for the violations of such regulations and rules.
- h. A statewide database shall be created to store all disciplinary actions taken against Law Enforcement Officers.
- i. The Law Enforcement Accountability Commission shall be tasked with writing a tri-monthly report to the Attorney General of West Virginia regarding the disciplinary actions against Law Enforcement Officers in West Virginia.
- j. Law Enforcement Officers who have been terminated from employment shall be prohibited from seeking further law enforcement employment in the State of West Virginia.
- k. Law enforcement officers may seek an exemption from subsection j.
- l. If Law enforcement officers may wish to seek an exemption from subsection j, they must write a request to the Attorney General of West Virginia, explaining why they should be granted such an exemption.
- m. The Attorney General of West Virginia shall either approve or reject this exemption within a timeframe of one year. If the exemption is not granted within a year, it shall be assumed that the exemption request was denied.

Section 3. Funding: The legislature shall provide 50 million dollars for the funding of potential training, the creation of potential new training facilities, the creation of the statewide database, and other expenses that the legislature shall deem necessary. The funding for this bill shall come from the West Virginia State Police budget. The West Virginia State Police shall be reimbursed with funds from the West Virginia lottery to ensure that the West Virginia State Police doesn't bear any financial burden.

Section 4. Effective date: Once passed by both chambers of the legislature and signed by the Governor of West Virginia, this legislation shall go into effect on January 1st, 2026.

A BILL

Prohibit Flavored Vape Products

"To amend and add to section §16-9A-2 of the State Code for the purpose of Public Health"

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

- 2 Section 1. Definitions: "Vapor product" means any non-combustible product containing
3 nicotine that employs a heating element, power source, electronic circuit or other electronic,
4 chemical or mechanical means, regardless of shape and size, that can be used to produce
5 vapor from nicotine in a solution or other form. "Vapor product" includes any electronic
6 cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, electronic pipe or similar product or device,
7 and any vapor cartridge or other container of nicotine in a solution or other form that is
8 intended to be used with or in an electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo,
9 electronic pipe or similar product or device. "Vapor product" does not include any product
10 that is regulated by the United States Food and Drug Administration under Chapter V of
11 the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act.
- 12 Section 2. Prohibit a person or entity from manufacturing, selling, delivering, distributing,
13 holding, or offering for sale, in commerce a flavored "Vapor Product" for human inhalation.
- 14 Section 3. This bill would make a violation of these provisions punishable by a civil penalty
15 not to exceed \$5,000 for a first violation and not to exceed \$10,000 for each subsequent
16 violation, upon an action brought by the Attorney General, a city attorney, a county
17 counsel, or a district attorney.
- 18 Section 4. This bill shall go into effect 180 days after passage.

A BILL

MANDATED SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

"To mandate a school resource officer in every school in WV."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

- 2 Section 1. Definitions: School Resource Officer- sworn law enforcement officer responsible for safety and
3 crime prevention in schools.
- 4 Section 2. All West Virginia schools, including elementary school, middle school, high schools, and
5 colleges, must have a mandated school resource officer on school grounds at all times. This is due to the lack
6 of safety in schools and the rise of violence on school grounds. This would be to protect all students, staff, and
7 visitors.
- 8 Section 3. Schools in 16 counties do not have a school resource officer on any campus. (Keagy, WSAZ
9 investigates: School Safety 2023) This is a danger to every person on school grounds, as a school resource
10 officer would be able to provide an extra level of protection that schools alone cannot.
- 11 Section 4. The Lottery would be the source of the money for these officers pay.
- 12 Section 5. This shall go into effect the next school year.

A BILL

MANDATING A ROTATION OF ALL WVSSAC STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

- 2 Section 1. Definitions: WVSSAC: West Virginia Secondary Schools Activities Commission;
- 3 Localization: the process of restricting something to a particular place
- 4 Section 2. The purpose of this bill is to mandate a rotation of all WVSSAC state championships in the
- 5 state of West Virginia. This bill will work to reduce localization and minimize bias throughout WVSSAC
- 6 state championships.
- 7 Section 3. By passing this bill, the state championship of all WVSSAC sanctioned activities will rotate
- 8 on a yearly basis. The rotation will consist of three possible locations that may vary depending on the
- 9 specific activity.
- 10 Section 4. No additional funding is required for the enactment of this bill. All possible costs will be
- 11 provided for by the money already in use.
- 12 Section 5. This bill shall go into effect at the beginning of the next school year after passage

A BILL
TO ADD A NEEDLE EXCHANGE PROGRAM IN EVERY COUNTY

To be added to §16-3-1 of West Virginia State Code

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

1 Section 1. a) Let “Needle Exchange Program (NEP’s) be defined as community-based programs that
2 provide access to sterile needles and syringes, facilitate safe disposal of used syringes, and provide
3 and links to rehabilitation programs. b) Let “Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)” be defined as a
4 virus that attacks the body's immune system. c) Let “Blood Born Disease” be defined as an illness
5 that spreads from one person to person through pathogens and microorganisms such as viruses or
6 bacteria that are carried in blood stream.

7 Section 2. The purpose of this bill is to have at least one Needle Exchange Program throughout all
8 55 counties in West Virginia.

9 Section 3. If this bill were to pass it would provide clean injecting equipment and other, lifesaving,
10 medical supplies to those in need while also greatly reducing the amount of used needles disposed of
11 in unsafe ways. By accepting the used injecting equipment, we are also reducing the risk of spreading
12 HIV and other blood borne diseases within our community.

13 Section 4: This bill will be funded with an increased tax on cigarettes by 25 cents per box.

14 Section 5: This bill will go into effect on the 1st on January in 2025.

A BILL

TO HELP PREVENT THE USE OF VAPES AND OTHER NICOTINE PRODUCTS IN
WEST VIRGINIA HIGH SCHOOLS

*"TO AMEND AND ADD TO CHAPTER §16-9A-3 OF THE STATE CODE FOR USE OR POSSESSION OF TOBACCO OR TOBACCO PRODUCTS,
ALTERNATIVE NICOTINE PRODUCTS OR VAPOR PRODUCTS BY PERSONS UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS; PENALTIES."*

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

2 Section 1. a. This bill will protect the health and well-being of high school students by preventing the use of vapor and
3 alternative nicotine products. b. Vapes and other E-cigarettes can cause a number of harmful to the body, some being
4 lung disease, heart disease, throat cancer, and many more.

5 Section 2. Awareness. a. Implement comprehensive educational programs that raise awareness about the risks and
6 consequences of using vapor and nicotine products. b. Provide age-appropriate information on health effects, addiction,
7 and marketing tactics used by the industry. c. Promote the development of critical thinking skills to counteract misleading
8 advertisement and peer pressure.

9 Section 3. Restriction of sales and Marketing. a. Prohibit all sale of any nicotine products to anyone under the age of
10 21. b. Enforce strict regulation on the marketing and advertising towards anyone under the age of 21. c. Implement clear
11 labeling requirements that highlight the health risks and addictive nature of vapor and nicotine products.

12 Section 4. School Policies and Support. a. Require all high schools to adopt and enforce policies that prohibit the use,
13 possession, and distribution of vapor and/or nicotine products. b. Provide resources for schools to establish counseling
14 programs and support groups for students to quit and avoid using vapor and nicotine products. c. Encourage collaboration
15 between schools, parents, and community organizations to create a supportive environment for students.

16 Section 5. Enforcement and penalties. a. Designate appropriate authorities responsible for enforcing the provisions of
17 this act. b. Impose penalties on individuals or businesses found in violation, including fines, community service, or
18 mandatory education programs. c. Establish mechanisms for reporting violations and encourage anonymous reporting to
19 protect students from potential retaliation. d. A fine for having vapor products and/or nicotine will be \$250, adding \$250
20 for every account

21 Section 6. Research and Evaluation. a. Allocate funding for research on the long term health effects of vapor and
22 nicotine products used among high school students. b. Regularly evaluate the effectiveness of prevention programs and
23 policies to inform future ongoing research.

24 Section 7. This bill will go into action the following school year after it is passed.

A BILL

Prohibiting people over the age 70 to run for or hold West Virginia state or federal government positions

"To be added to West Virginia code chapter eight as article forty."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

2 Section 1. Definitions: state government positions will be defined as any positions in the West
3 Virginia state government such as Governor, Senators, Delegates, leadership of the Senate and House
4 of Delegates, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, etc. federal government
5 positions will be defined as any position in the United States government such as the United States
6 Senator(s) for West Virginia and United States Representative(s) for West Virginia

7 Section 2. No person over the age of seventy years old shall be allowed to run for or hold any West
8 Virginia state government position or West Virginia federal government position. No person in
9 any forms of West Virginia government may appoint a person who is above the age of seventy for
10 any forms of West Virginia government. Any person who holds a West Virginia state
11 government position or West Virginia Federal government position who is above the age of seventy
12 years or older may finish their term they have been elected/selected for. If a person is under the age
13 of seventy years old when they are elected/selected for the position but will be the age of seventy
14 when their term begins or at any point in their term, they may complete the term for that position and
15 no more.

16 Section 3. This bill requires no additional funding.

17 Section 4. This bill will go into effect immediately after passage.

A BILL
REMOVING THE IMPOSED TAX ON FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS

To amend §11-15-9 of West Virginia State Code

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

2 Section 1. (a) feminine hygiene products- personal care products used for and during menstruation,
3 including tampons, sanitary napkins, menstrual cups, and other products. (b) necessity- something
4 necessary or indispensable.

5 Section 2. The purpose of this bill is to remove the state-wide six percent sales tax from feminine
6 hygiene products.

7 Section 3. Other necessities, such as groceries and medicine are exempt from the sales tax imposed
8 by the state government so feminine hygiene products should be. Removing the taxation of feminine
9 hygiene products will allow them to become more affordable when needed, in an already
10 impoverished state.

11 Section 4. This bill will need no funding. If additional funding is needed to remove the deficit from
12 the tax exemption in place, then the tax exemption on advertising may be removed.

13 Section 5. This bill will go into effect on July 1, 2024

A BILL

Youth Voices in the Education System Act.

To require every BOE in the state of West Virginia to have a youth representative on the board.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

- 1 Section 1. Let “youth representative” be defined as a student that sits on a board to
2 provide input from the perspective of the youth. Let “Board of Education” be defined as a
3 body of trustees of a district that oversee the school system/systems.
- 4 Section 2. The purpose of this bill is to require the Board of Education in every county to
5 have at least one youth representative in the 11th or 12th grade that attends a public school in
6 the county to have a seat on the board.
- 7 Section 3. Students who would like to be considered to be a youth representative must submit
8 an application to their local Board of Education and participate in an interview process.
9 Members of the board will then vote on a representative
- 10 Section 4. Youth representatives will not be paid members of the board.
- 11 Section 5. This will require no funds.
- 12 Section 6. This bill shall go into effect 6 months after its passage.

A BILL

The Traveling Wildlife Protection Act

To stop the abuse of animals in circuses and private zoos

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

2 Section 1. (a) Let “circus” be defined as any event that uses exotic wildlife for public entertainment. (b)

3 Let “wildlife” be defined as any animal that is not commonly domesticated. (c) Let “zoo” be defined as an

4 establishment which maintains a collection of wild animals. (d) Let the “Association of Zoos and

5 Aquariums” (AZA) be defined as an accrediting organization for zoos and aquariums that assures the

6 public that a facility will meet the highest standard of animal care and welfare. (e) Let “aquatic life” be

7 defined as an animal that lives most of its life underwater.

8 Section 2. Circuses may not perform with animals that exceed the weight of 100 pounds.

9 Section 3. Circuses may not perform with animals including but not limited to, any species of Elephant,

10 species of primate that exceed the weight of 25 pounds, big cats that exceed the weight of 35 pounds, any

11 species of Bear, Zebras, Llamas, Wolves, Camels, Giraffe and exotic birds.

12 Section 4. Circuses may not perform with any species of aquatic life.

13 Section 5. Any circus that has animals that does not violate this bill must provide ample living conditions

14 while traveling. These conditions must meet the standard policy of the AZA.

15 Section 6. Any circus or attraction that violates this bill may not book a venue in West Virginia.

16 Section 7. A fine of \$250,000 and the confiscation of all the animals in the facility will be imposed if a

17 circus company is not holding these standards or has any of the animals in violation of this bill.

18 Section 8. These laws do not apply to zoos and aquariums that are AZA accredited.

19 Section 9. This bill shall go into effect on January 1st, 2025.

A BILL
Homeless Housing Act

To require each county seat to have a state funded homeless shelter.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

2 Section 1. Let “county seat” be defined as the town that is the governmental center of a county in
3 West Virginia. Let “homeless shelter” be defined as a temporary home for people who have no
4 permanent place of residence or shelter to live. Let “temporary” be defined as no longer than a 90
5 consecutive day stay.

6 Section 2. The purpose of this bill is to require each county seat to have one designated shelter for
7 the homeless that would provide them with a bed, food, hygiene products, clothes, and other
8 necessities.

9 Section 3. During their stay, people will receive counselling, help finding a job, and options for
10 a permanent home.

11 Each facility will have a maximum of a 90 consecutive day stay and limit of people depending on
12 the size of the building.

13 Section 4. To fund this bill, a percentage of the state surplus will be allotted to increasing the
14 funding of the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources’ “Family Resource
15 Network” The shelters will be funded by this non-profit. The state can apply for grants through
16 “The National Alliance to end Homelessness” for additional funding, if needed.

17 Section 5. This bill shall go into effect 1 year after passage to allow for building plans.

A BILL

Law Enforcement Body Camera Act

To require all law enforcement to wear body cameras.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

2 Section 1. Body Cameras- A small camera placed on the body, typically used by police officers or
3 law enforcements. Used to record arrests, evidence from crime scenes, etc. Law Enforcement- The
4 employees and/or agencies responsible for maintaining public order, public safety, and enforcing
5 laws. In Field- In a real or natural environment rather than controlled conditions.

6 Section 2. The purpose of this bill is to require all in field law enforcement to wear a body
7 camera. Wearing body cameras will allow for additional evidence in court cases, civil disputes,
8 and problems within the agency itself. It will help to prevent and stop those who commit
9 misconduct. Decrease the false complaints brought into the agencies, as there will be video
10 evidence to supply an investigation of the situation. Will decrease the use of force by both officers
11 and civilians. Videos recorded on body cams may be used for training new officers as it will
12 provide a real in-field situation to learn from. Accountability for actions will be claimed faster as
13 there is no refuting solid video evidence.

14 Section 3. By passing this bill, all in the field law enforcement will be required to wear a body
15 camera.

16 Section 4. This bill will require funding from the state of West Virginia for the Department of
17 Justice to implement body cameras.

18 Section 5. This bill will go into effect 365 days after passage.

A BILL
Accurate Homelessness Reports In West Virginia

To ensure accuracy and improvement within the state's system for reporting and aid those who have no fixed place of residence in a timely and fair manner.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WV:

2 Section 1. “Homelessness” refers to any individual who does not have a permanent living space not including a
3 car or tent. “AHAR” refers the Annual Homeless Assessment Report. “DHHR” refers to the Department of
4 Health and Human Resources. “HMIS” refers to the Homeless Management Information Systems. “HUD” is the
5 United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

6 Section 2. The primary motive for implementing this bill is making AHAR reports more frequent and accurate
7 within the state of WV. By implementing this bill, the state would be required to complete two reports a year
8 instead of one. Local HUD workers would be tasked with reporting back to the AHAR for publishing every
9 three months.

10 Section 3. By passing this bill, homeless individuals would be aided through more accurate and up to date
11 reports.

12 Section 4. Additional funding will be needed for this bill from the HUD so that the workers completing the
13 homeless reports can be properly paid. Additionally, the HUD will need additional funding from Congress in
14 order to properly publish and disperse of the information.

15 Section 5. This bill will go into effect at the start of the 2025 fiscal year.

A BILL

To Mandate Athletic Trainers in All Secondary Schools

To ensure the safety and care of student-athletes in all secondary schools by adding a new section designated §18-2-44

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

Section 1: “Athletic Trainer” is an individual engaged in the practice of athletic training who holds a license under the provisions of the W. Va. Code §30-20A-4. "Athletic training" and "the practice of athletic training" means the care and services provided by a licensed athletic trainer as described under the provisions of the W. Va. Code §30-20A-3. “Athletic injury or condition" means any injury or condition sustained by an individual that occurs during, or as a result of, the individual's participation in organized athletic or recreational athletic activity that requires physical strength, agility, flexibility, speed, stamina, or range of motion or a substantially similar injury or condition resulting from occupational activity immediately upon the onset of such injury or condition. “Secondary School” refers to all public middle and high schools.

Section 2: The purpose of this bill is to mandate qualified athletic trainers in all public secondary schools.

Section 3: If passed, this bill will require West Virginia secondary schools to have an employed athletic trainer. The county board of education will be tasked with employing the personnel required to designate a trainer to each secondary school the county. If two schools in a district have less than 1,200 enrolled students combined, one athletic trainer can be employed to provide athletic training services to both schools. If enacted student-athletes would be properly evaluated for athletic injury and treated or referred to specialized medical professionals.

Section 4: Where funds are pulled for the salary of the athletic trainer is up the discretion of the board of education to which each secondary school resides.

Section 5: This bill shall go into effect the 2025-2026 school year to allow schools adequate time for hiring processes and additional arrangements.

A BILL
TO FORGIVE AND CEASE INTEREST ON COLLEGE STUDENT LOANS

“To be added to Chapter 18C of the West Virginia State Code”

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

2 Section 1. (a) forgive- to cancel (a debt). (b) interest- money paid regularly at a particular rate for the
3 use of money lent. (c) lend- borrow with the intent of paying back. (d) loan- the money that is
4 borrowed from a lender. (e) brain drain- emigration of highly trained or intelligent people from a
5 particular region.

6 Section 2. This would forgive student loan interest from loans taken out by students for collegiate
7 purposes and prohibit interest from being applied to any future collegiate student loans taken out by
8 any students.

9 Section 3. If this bill is passed, alumni and collegiate students of West Virginia will see financial
10 relief, the acceleration of debt repayment, the stimulation of the economy in West Virginia, the rate
11 of loans defaulted decrease, and more opportunity for those West Virginians of lower
12 socioeconomic status.

13 Section 4. If the bill is passed, all citizens of West Virginia will see the addressing of the brain drain
14 and retention of talent crisis, the promotion of higher education and the access and affordability
15 thereof, and the alleviation of financial hardship and improvisation of the well-being of all West
16 Virginians.

17 Section 5. This bill does not require any funding.

18 Section. 6 This bill shall go into effect May 1st, 2024.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

A Bill

Making the Death Penalty Available For Cases Involving Murder

To ensure justice is served for the family of murder victims if deemed necessary by the court in which they are tried and convicted

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

Section 1. “Cases Involving Murder” refers to the charge of Murder in the 1st degree. “Murder in the 1st degree” is any intentional murder that is willful and premeditated with malice. Murder is described as “Malice” by the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia. “Malice” meaning the intention or desire to do evil. “Death Penalty” refers to the punishment of execution, administered to someone convicted of committing a capital crime.

Section 2. The primary motive for implementing this bill is to guarantee justice for the victims' family and to ensure the person convicted of committing this crime will never get the chance to harm another human being. The death penalty is only to be carried out by lethal injection and is to be executed under the command of the Secretary of Corrections or the secretary's designee. Any persons under the age of 18 are not subject to this sentence.

Section 3. By passing this bill, we can collectively guarantee that not another individual shall fear this person being in our state. We can also ensure that another family is not left without justice for the horrible crimes committed against their significant other.

Section 4. The only additional cost for implementing this bill is the cost of the drugs to be used in this punishment. The 1st drug is an anesthetic or sedative drug known as (Midazolam) used to ensure the inmate does not feel pain. The 2nd drug to be used is (Pancuronium Bromide) which is intended to paralyze the muscles. The final drug to be used is (Potassium Chloride) and it is to stop the heart ultimately leading to the death of the inmate. The cost of these 3 drugs is estimated to be 290\$.

Section 5. This bill is to go into effect 2 months after passing into law.

A BILL

To Mandate Retired Police Officer/Armed Security Guard to every school in the state of West Virginia

“A Bill that allows every school including Elementary and Middle schools a Retired Police Officer/ Armed Security Guard”

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

2 Section 1. Definitions: (A) Retired Police Officer: A person who is no longer working for a
3 department due to retiring. (B) Armed Security Guard: A person employed to protect citizens
4 who also carry firearms.

5 Section 2. The purpose of this bill is to make children feel safe while learning. Whether it is
6 public or private school, there should always be a retired police officer or an armed security
7 guard. This will then make the kids feel comforted and stress free from harm, and parents will
8 feel comfortable with sending their child to school with the officer or guard always present.

9 Section 3. By passing this bill, the schools of West Virginia will be safer and more protected
10 when there is a school shooting, fighting among students, and threats. Whenever a police
11 officer or an armed security guard is in the building, it represents how the law is a good thing
12 to children instead of a bad thing. Having children interact with police or an armed guard can
13 help build a positive view and build relationships in that field. Another benefit of this bill
14 being passed is the retired officer and the armed guard get paid through the school and
15 not the state since the school is hiring them.

16 Section 4. This bill does not require additional funding.

17 Section 5. This bill will go into effect at the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year
18 after passage.

A BILL
4 Day Work Week

"To allow employees flexibility and affordability"

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

1. Section 1. Let “workweek” be defined as the standard 5-days of work.
2. Section 2. This bill would enact a statewide standard of a 4-day work week. If businesses choose not to follow this bill, they will be taxed for the extra hours of their employee's work. This bill would improve the productivity of employees and would help to boost companies' revenue.
3. Section 3. This bill will help to bring people back to the workplace after COVID, cut spending for businesses, cut gas spending for gas, give parents more time with their children, etc.
4. Section 4. This bill does not apply to teachers, daycare workers, first responders, and medical professionals.
5. Section 5. The professions listed above would receive a stipend for working the extra day.
6. Section 6. Businesses who choose to opt out of this bill would be taxed 5%.
7. Section 7. This bill would go into effect on January 1st, 2025.

A BILL
STATE ANIMAL ACT OF 2024

The purpose of this bill is to change our state animal from the Black Bear to our local legend and folk hero the Mothman.

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:
- 2 Section 1. Let “Mothman” be defined as a cryptid/animal from West Virginia, regarded as a tall dark figure with glowing red eyes and tall wings, akin to a moth thus giving it its moniker. The Mothman is a well-known local legend of Point Pleasant, West Virginia. It was continuously seen November 15th, 1966 through, December 15th 1967. Let “cryptid” be defined through the oxford definition of “an animal whose existence or survival to the present day is disputed or unsubstantiated; any animal of interest to a cryptozoologist”.
- 3 Section 2. The goal of this bill is to change our state animal the Black Bear to a more uniquely West Virginian Mothman.
- 4 Section 3. By passing this bill, West Virginia as a whole will become more unique as the Black Bear shares the title of state animal in three other states. Some may argue that the Mothman is not considered an animal and therefore should not be eligible as a state animal, yet Scotland’s official national animal is the unicorn. This will also bring more attention to West Virginia in a few ways including, additional attention and attendees to Point Pleasant’s Mothman Festival, attention to the state as a whole from news stations and media reporting the change, and tourism to the state from said media attention.
- 5 Section 4. This bill will not cost any additional funding.
- 6 Section 5. This bill will go into effect immediately.

2024 67th Annual WEST VIRGINIA SENATE



TOMORROW'S LEADERS
START TODAY

YOUTH LEADERSHIP ASSOCIATION

President of the Senate
Thomas Sibold

James Monroe YLA

APRIL 25⁷⁵-27, 2024

2024 WEST VIRGINIA YLA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT SENATE COMMITTEES

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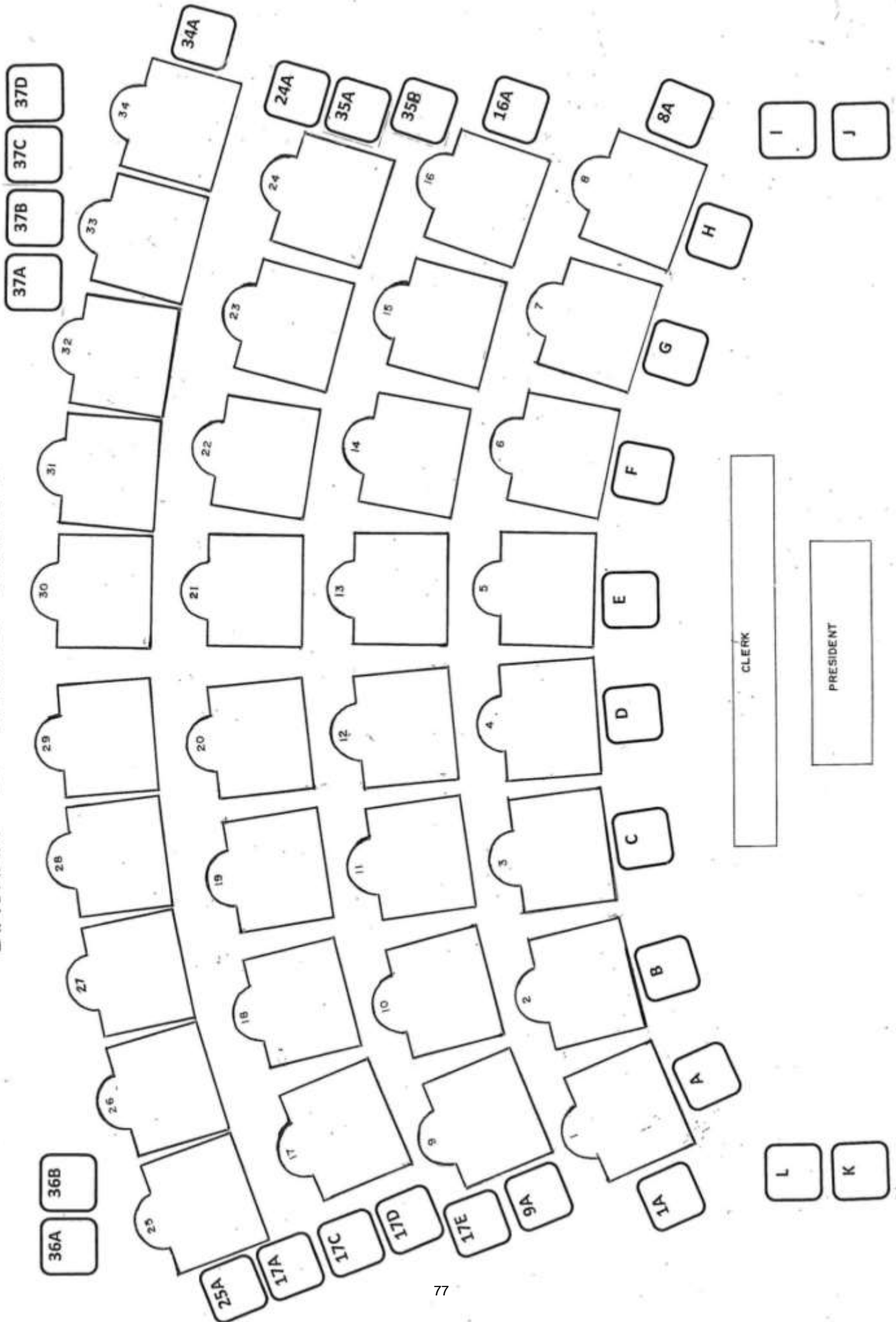
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DIAGRAM OF SENATE CHAMBER



2024 WEST VIRGINIA YLA YOUTH in GOVERNMENT SENATE BILLS

BILL #	TITLE	COM	DISPOSITION		
			COM	SENATE FLOOR	GOV
1	To Provide Increased Financial Assistance for Veterans' Housing Through the Creation of a State Coffee Beverage Tax	S 01			
2	Pornography Crimes and Punishments Act	S 02			
3	To Grant Extended Family Leave	S 02			
4	Implementing Tax Incentives on Professional Theatric Touring Companies with Sufficient Revenue	S 01			
5	Modernization of Virtual Learning Options in West Virginia	S 01			
6	To Provide Foster Children in WV Free Post Secondary Education	S 02			
7	Increasing the Salary of all Public Educators in West Virginia	S 02			
8	Requiring Humane Treatment of Animals in Food Industry	S 01			
9	Not attending				
10	To Amend West Virginia Code 20-2-5 Legalizing Whistling Underwater	S 02			
11	Not Attending				
12	Allowing West Virginia High School Educators to Carry Firearms on School Grounds	S 01			
13	To Require Mental Health Specialists in All Public Schools in West Virginia	S 01			
14	To Offer Self-Defense Classes for All Highschool Students	S 02			
15	Sexual Education Courses in Schools	S 02			
16	Early Graduation Option	S 01			
17	Peace Land and Bread Act	S 01			
18	Future for Veterans	S 02			

ACTION ON LEGISLATIVE BILLS DISPOSITION INDEX

Died in Committee	D Com
Defeated in Committee	Com Def
Passed in Committee	PC
Passed as Amended in Committee	PAC
Died in Senate	DS
Died in House	DH
Senate Defeated	S Def
House Defeated	H Def
Passed Senate	PS
Passed House	PH
Passed as Amended in Senate	PAS
Passed as Amended in House	PAH
Governor Signed	GS
Governor Vetoed	GV
Unsigned By Governor	GU

A BILL

**TO Provide Increased Financial Assistance for Veterans' Housing Through the
Creation of a State Coffee Beverage Tax.**

To amend §9A-2-2 of the West Virginia State Code

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

1 Section 1. (a) Financial Assistance – support provided in the form of money or resources to help. (b)
2 Veteran - a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service, and who was discharged or
3 released therefrom under conditions other than dishonorable. (c) Veterans housing – housing
4 specifically designed for those who have served in the military, providing a safe and affordable living
5 option for veterans.

6 Section 2: (a) To amend increased financial assistance for veterans' housing in West Virginia to
7 ensure that veterans have access to safe and affordable housing options.

8 Section 3: If this bill were to pass, the increased financial assistance would help cover the costs
9 associated with rent, utilities, and other housing-related expenses, making it easier for veterans to
10 have stable housing in the state of West Virginia. This will ensure veterans have access to suitable
11 housing that meets their different needs. The funding will primarily go towards providing resources
12 for veterans housing. This will also include financial support for the improvement and renovations of
13 physical facilities, rental assistance, house loans, and housing grants. Additionally, this bill will also
14 support the development of specialized housing facilities for those with disabilities.

15 Section 4: This bill will receive funding from a set rate of \$0.12 sales tax increase that shall be
16 imposed on coffee beverages.

17 Section 5: This bill will go into effect on January 1st, 2025.

A BILL

Pornography Crimes and Punishments Act

To Repeal and Replace §61-8-28. Nonconsensual disclosure of private intimate images; definitions; and penalties, with new legislation to impose harsher punishments for specific pornographic crimes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

Section 1. Let “Pornography” be defined as material such as photographs and digital videos, that depicts erotic behavior that is intended to cause sexual excitement. Let “Pornographic Public Exposure” be defined as intentionally sharing pornography depicting another person without their consent.

Section 2. The purpose of this bill is to replace the current West Virginia code that is too lenient on crimes involving pornography with new legislation that establishes new crimes and their punishments. No person may intentionally share pornography that depicts another person without their consent.

Section 3. A person convicted for pornographic public exposure on the first offense is guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be confined in jail for not more than one year. A person convicted for pornographic public exposure on the second offense is guilty of a felony, and upon conviction thereof, shall be imprisoned in a state correctional facility for a minimum of two years, and a maximum of three years. A person convicted for pornographic public exposure beyond a second offense is guilty of a felony, and upon conviction thereof, shall be imprisoned in a state correctional facility for a minimum of three years, and a maximum of five years.

Section 4. If this bill becomes law, perpetrators of crimes involving pornography will face justice for making other people the victims of a crime that can bring many problems into their lives, and the thought of the perpetrator being confined or imprisoned will take the emotional and psychological burden off the victims.

Section 5. Additional funding to the West Virginia Division of Corrections and Rehabilitation will be necessary. Mandatory additional funds for upkeeping state correctional facilities and jails in West Virginia will be determined during the state budgeting process.

Section 6. This bill shall go into effect three months after passage.

A BILL

TO GRANT EXTENDED FAMILY LEAVE

“To add to Chapter 21 Article 5D Section 4 of the West Virginia State Code.”

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

2 Section 1. Definitions: Family leave- unpaid leave in the instance of the care of a newborn child,
3 adopting a child, the instance of a serious health condition, or the care of a serious health condition of
4 a dependent.

5 Section 2. The purpose of this bill is to provide extended the amount of leave currently provided for
6 families and to guarantee a livable salary during this time.

7 Section 3. Any person(s) qualifying for family leave while working within West Virginia at the time
8 of family leave may have at least 6 months of leave, with a guaranteed 55% of their salaries.

9 Section 4. No additional state funding will be required. The burden of payment falls on private
10 companies and corporations.

11 Section 5. This legislation will take effect on FY 2025. All laws in conflict with this legislation are
12 hereby declared null and void.

A BILL
IMPLEMENTING TAX INCENTIVES ON PROFESSIONAL THEATRIC TOURING
COMPANIES WITH SUFFICIENT REVENUE

To add to section §5B-2E-7b of the state code for the purpose of encouraging professional theater companies to perform in our state to enhance culture and bring in tourism.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

2 Section 1. Definitions: (a) “Touring Company” is any theatrical group (be it musical theater or
3 straight plays) that travel the country and perform for different venues. (b) “tax incentive” in this
4 context is a 30% tax credit on the touring companies production. (c) “tax credit” allows taxpayers to
5 subtract the amount of credit they have accrued from the total they owe the state, essentially a
6 discount. (d) “sufficient revenue” is the ability to create a profit.

7 Section 2. The purpose of this bill is to encourage professional theater to be performed in West
8 Virginia through a 30% tax credit on the production. Our neighboring states, Ohio and Kentucky,
9 have already implemented these tax incentives and they have proven successful. The increase in
10 professional theater performances will enhance West Virginia’s performing arts culture and increase
11 tourism cities within West Virginia. Hotels, local restaurants, and venues will have an increase in
12 revenue as a result.

13 Section 3. By passing this bill West Virginia will become more fluent in performing arts. It has
14 positive economic implications in hosting cities.

15 Section 4. This bill will require no additional funding.

16 Section 5. This bill will go in effect January 1, 2025.

MODERNIZATION OF VIRTUAL LEARNING OPTIONS IN WEST VIRGINIA

TO ENHANCE THE EDUCATION OF STUDENTS ACTIVELY TAKING A VIRTUAL LEARNING COURSE, BY PROVIDING CURRENT AND VALID INFORMATION, WHILE ALSO CREATING AN EQUAL PLAYING FIELD FOR WEST VIRGINIAN STUDENTS COMPETING AGAINST THOSE IN OTHER AREAS, WHO ARE BETTER EQUIPPED WITH MODERNIZED VIRTUAL LEARNING OPTIONS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

2 Section 1. Let “virtual learning” be the option students are given when a class is not offered in
3 person, or when a student does not attend school in person. “WVLearns” be the current online
4 curriculum offered in West Virginia. “Modernize” as updated information and non-expired sources
5 are provided.

6 Section 2. This bill seeks to modernize or rewrite the Virtual Learning course offered in West
7 Virginia Schools. Therefore, the bill will amend West Virginia state code §18-2E-9 which states that
8 schools must offer a virtual learning option. Currently, the statewide virtual learning option is
9 *WVLearns* which provides outdated information and expired links ultimately hindering West
10 Virginia’s students’ ability to learn. This modernization will provide students with appropriate
11 information and allow them to compete with students from different areas, who have access to better
12 virtual options. Thus, better equipping them for their future and aiding in their ability to represent the
13 West Virginia school system.

14 Section 3. This bill would call upon the West Virginia Department of Education and the WVDE
15 budget, which is provided by the West Virginia Legislature each year. The bill will utilize the same
16 funding as the current online curriculum. This same funding will also provide the funding for the
17 rewriting of the current online curriculum (WVLearns) or the adoption of a more current virtual
18 option.

19 Section 3. This bill shall go into effect at the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year.

A BILL

TO PROVIDE FOSTER CHILDREN IN WV FREE POST SECONDARY EDUCATION

“To amend Chapter 18B Article 10 Section 7B of the West Virginia State Code.”

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

2 Section 1. Let “foster children” refer to individuals who are under the care of West Virginia foster
3 care system. Let “post-secondary education” refer to any form of education beyond high school,
4 including but not limiting to college, vocational training, and technical education.

5 Section 2. The purpose of this bill is to address the educational barriers faced by foster children in
6 West Virginia by providing them with totally free access to post-secondary education opportunities.
7 Foster children often encounter significant challenges in pursuing higher education due to factors
8 such as instability, lack of financial resources, and limited support systems. By offering tuition and
9 room and board waivers for enrollment in public post-secondary institutions, this bill aims to level
10 the playing field and ensure that foster children have equitable access to the educational opportunities
11 necessary for their personal and professional growth. By investing in the education of foster children,
12 we not only empower them to reach their full potential but also contribute to the overall well-being
13 and prosperity of our state by fostering a more educated and skilled workforce.

14 Section 3. This bill act in conjunction with HB-4784 that already allows tuition waivers for foster
15 children, and this will additionally provide room and board.

16 Section 4. This will be funded with proceeds by the West Virginia Lottery.

17 Section 5. This bill will go into effect July 2025.

A BILL

INCREASING THE SALARY OF ALL PUBLIC EDUCATORS IN WEST VIRGINIA

To amend to section §18A-4-2 of the West Virginia State Code

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

1 Section 1. Let “Increase” be defined as becoming greater in size, amount, intensity, or degree. Let
2 “Degree” be defined as a qualification awarded to a student upon successful completion of a course
3 of study in higher education these types of educational degrees include associate’s, bachelor’s,
4 master’s, doctoral and professional. Let “Experience” be defined as the culmination of skills,
5 exposure or training acquired over time that enables you to perform an existing job better. Let “Public
6 Educators” be defined as a state or public school that educates all students without charge. Let
7 “Salary” be defined as a fixed regular payment, typically paid on a monthly or biweekly basis but
8 often expressed as an annual sum.

9 Section 2: The purpose of this bill is to increase the salary of all public educators in the state of
10 West Virginia to further develop education quality and diminish turnover. This salary increase will
11 be applied along with the yearly step increase in salary for years of experience and degree level.

12 Section 3: If this bill were to pass, increasing the salary of all educators will improve the quality
13 of public education and morale of educators along with increasing student achievement in the
14 classroom. This change will also bring more individuals into the education field and retain these
15 individuals in the state of West Virginia.

16 Section 4: This bill will receive funding by increasing alcohol and e-cigarette sales taxation by
17 1.5% each and the difference will be made up from the lottery fund.

18 Section 5: This bill will go into effect at the start of the 2024-2025 school year.

A BILL

Requiring Humane Treatment of Animals in the Food Industry

“To add to Chapter 61-8-19 of the West Virginia State Code.”

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

- 2 Section 1. (a) shelter- place that protects protection from the elements such as weather (b)
3 sustenance- food or nourishment that meets nutritional needs (c) abuse- harmful or improper
4 treatment that inflicts both suffering and physical harm (d) confinement -the act of restricting or
5 restraining in terms of space (e) domestication- the adaptation of animals or plants which involves
6 taming and selective breeding techniques (f) artificial insemination- a reproductive technique used
7 to assist in breeding (g) abandon – to leave behind and no longer give support or care
- 8 Section 2. The purpose of this bill is to prohibit mistreatment of animals in the food industry. It is
9 necessary to take such action to protect the welfare of animals and rebuild consumer trust in the food
10 industry. Violations by any persons responsible of such abusive behaviors will be punishable by a
11 fine not less than \$500 and not more than \$3,000. These terms are definitive and will be non-
12 negotiable. The convicted will be tried in court where they will receive their sentence.
- 13 Section 3. By passing this bill, West Virginia would establish a law that protects animals in the food
14 industry that are currently subject to routine mutilations, confinement, and torment. It will affect all
15 animals related industries in West Virginia and set clear standards for businesses to ensure the
16 consistent, humane treatment of animals.
- 17 Section 4. This bill will require no additional state funding; improvement costs will be up to
18 individual businesses
- 19 Section 5. This bill will go into effect January 1, 2025.

Senate Bill 9 - Leveling the Playing Field

Not Attending YG

A BILL

TO AMEND WEST VIRGINIA CODE 20-2-5

LEGALIZING WHISTLING UNDERWATER

1 Section 1. a.) Let whistling be defined as omitting a clear high pitch sound by forcing breath
2 through a small hole between one's lips or teeth. b.) Let underwater be defined as situated,
3 occurring, or done beneath the surface of water. c.) Let waterway be defined as any body
4 of water, man-made or natural.

5 Section 2. The purpose of this bill is to grant the residents of West Virginia the freedom to
6 whistle below the surface of any state and local waterways. The simple act of whistling is
7 harmless; therefore, the people should have this freedom. The people will have complete
8 autonomy to decide when whistling underwater is appropriate for them.

9 Section 3. By passing this bill, whistlers across the state will be able to express any sounds
10 or noises during submersion, in any waterway, as they see fit without being fined or
11 punished by the restrictive force of the law.

12 Section 4. This bill requires absolutely no funding.

13 Section 5. This bill shall go into effect one month after passage so that all West Virginians
14 are informed of their newfound freedom.

Senate Bill 11 - To Require the Course of Financial Literacy as a
Graduation Requirement for All West Virginia
Students

Not Attending YG

A BILL

**ALLOWING WEST VIRGINIA HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATORS TO CARRY
FIREARMS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS**

"To amend and add to section 4507.07.1 of the State Code for the purpose of restricting minors from using a mobile communication device while driving a motor vehicle."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

2 Section 1. Definitions: A "firearm" is any type of gun that uses an explosive charge and is

3 designed to be readily carried and used by an individual.

4 Section 2. Educators that do not have a concealed carry permit may not be eligible to carry

5 a concealed weapon.

6 Section 3. It is WV Code 61-2-15

7 Section 4. This bill shall go into effect in the 2024-2025 school year

A BILL

**TO REQUIRE MENTAL HEALTH SPECIALISTS IN ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN
WEST VIRGINIA**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

1 **Section 1.** Let mental health specialists be defined: as a healthcare practitioner, or social and human
2 services provider who offers services for the purpose of improving an individual's mental health. Let
3 HIPAA be defined as a federal law that required the creation national standards to protect a patient
4 health information from being disclosed without patient's consent or knowledge.

5 **Section 2.** Each public school in the state of West Virginia is required to provide a mental health
6 professional that works within the school for students. No student is to be denied access to this resource
7 or be limited. Mental health professional can make referrals to other professionals, but not force students
8 to follow through unless student is harming themselves or others. HIPAA guidelines are to be followed as
9 the employed professional cannot share details with other students, staff, or any personnel within the
10 school. Parents can be contacted if need be.

11 **Section 3.** Enactment of this bill would be overseen by the West Virginia Department of Education when
12 it comes to allocating funds, hiring personnel, and rules. A baseline estimate of 10-15 million dollars
13 would be needed to get a start on employing professionals. Any raises for these personnel would go
14 through the county in which the employee lives. Funding for this bill would come through a combination
15 including: West Virginia Lottery and West Virginia Department of Education. If a county sees a need for
16 more funding, they can either contact the state for a grant or use money from their county if it's available.

17 **Section 4.** This bill would go into affect at the start of the next school year in 2024.

A BILL

To Offer Self-Defense Classes for All Highschool Students

"To teach students techniques to be able to protect themselves from physical assaults"

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

1 Section 1. A) Self-defense is the act of defending one's person when physically attacked. B) Sexual

2 assault is the act of nonconsensual touching of one person for the sexual gratification of another. C)

3 Assault is a sudden or violent attack. D) Secondary school is a high school or school of corresponding

4 grade, ranking between a primary school and college. E) Physical education is the systematic

5 instruction in sports, exercises, and hygiene given as part of a high school or college curriculum.

6 Section 2. This bill encourages the education system to allow self-defense classes to be taught through a

7 certified trainer and the implementation of self-defense classes available as a physical education credit

8 in high school.

9 Section 3. By passing this bill, we will be empowering and equipping youth with the skill set and

10 knowledge of self-defense to protect oneself from bullying, physical attacks, and sexual assault. More

11 so, this can supplement the work of Erin's Law and Meghan's Law by working towards diminishing the

12 drug epidemic, and self-harm and increasing efforts toward suicide prevention.

13 Section 4. Any funding required for this bill will come from the West Virginia Lottery.

14 Section 5. This bill will go into effect in the 2024-2025 school year.

Sexual Education Courses in Schools

The purpose of the bill is to provide sexual education to students of all ages to promote sexual health and wellness in students lives.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

1 Section 1. Let “sexual education” be defined as an instruction method based on a curriculum that aims
2 to give students the knowledge, attitudes, skills, and values to make appropriate and healthy choices in
3 their sexual lives. Let “sexual health and wellness” be defined as a state of physical, emotional, mental
4 and social wellbeing in relation to sexuality. Let “age appropriate” be defined as a developmental
5 concept whereby certain activities may be deemed appropriate or inappropriate to a child’s stage or
6 level of development.

7 Section 2. All grades K-12 will receive a sexual education course for the year they’re in school. K-5 will
8 have a class once a week all year on subjects that are age appropriate for them such as genital identity,
9 bodily autonomy, and puberty. When they reach 6-12 it will develop into a yearly class where students
10 are continuously being taught about puberty and then also being taught about topics like consent and
11 safe sex. The purpose of this class is to eradicate the stigma surrounding sexual health and wellness.

12 Section 3. Every public school in the state of West Virginia will be required to have a sexual education
13 class with a qualified teacher to teach it. Ex. A health teacher who went through adequate training to
14 teach these subjects or someone who went to school to study sexual health and wellness and education.
15 No student will be forced to take these classes. Before the first class there will be permission slips sent
16 home asking parents if they want their children to learn about these topics.

17 Section 4. Funding for this bill will come from the state, federal, and local funding, i.e taxes. Once this bill
18 goes into effect schools have until the start of the 2025-26 school year to have a teacher to teach this

19 class and a state approved sexual education curriculum. Failure to comply in starting this class will result
20 in the school being fined \$1500 to be given to the state and then given six weeks to start the class. If
21 after the six weeks a school fails to comply, they will then be fined \$3000 to be given to the state and
22 then the state will provide a teacher of their choosing for that school.

23 Section 5. This bill goes into effect on June 1st, 2024.

A BILL

Early Graduation Option

To allow high school students to graduate early

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

2 Section 1. Let “Students” be described as freshman, sophomores, juniors, and seniors
3 of a West Virginia high school.

4 Section 2. Let “Graduate” be defined as having the required credits to receive your
5 diploma of academic success.

6 Section 3. Let “Adult” be defined as a person of/over the age of 18.

7 Section 4. Let “Parent/Guardian” be defined as a legal guardian towards the student

8 Section 5. Let “Opt out” be defined as graduating early/before the end of your 4th year of
9 high school.

10 Section 6. The West Virginian state minimum number of high school credits is 22 credits
11 split up over multiple subjects. 4 credits for Math, 4 credits for English, 4 credits for
12 History, 3 credits for science, 1 credit for the arts, 1 credit for Physical Education, 1
13 credit for Health Education, and 4 personalized education plan credits.

14 Section 7. This bill will allow all students to opt out of high school. This will allow all
15 students graduate once they receive the minimum number of credits set by the state.
16 The number of credits can be changed by the school if they wish to do so but they do
17 not have the authority to stop early graduation if applicable based on the credit
18 minimum they choose.

19 Section 8. The school cannot alter the required credits to stop the student from leaving.

20 Section 9. The student cannot graduate without a parent/guardian to sign off and give
20 permission to the student unless that student is legally considered an adult.

21 Section 10. This bill will go into effect the following year after passage.

A BILL

Peace Land and Bread Act

To enact multiple reforms to improve the usage of land, the budget, and agriculture

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

1 Section 1. Definitions: Let “public parks” be defined as an outdoor area open to the public that is
2 intended for rest or recreational activities. Let “militarization” be defined as the process of the police
3 gaining access or ownership of more advanced and dangerous vehicles and equipment. Let “government
4 commission” be defined as an agency established by the government for the purpose of enforcing laws
5 or regulations. Let “agricultural facilities” be defined as any buildings or land that is used in the
6 production of agricultural products. Let “agricultural products” be any product produced through
7 agricultural practices with the intention of being sold. Let “subsidies” be funds granted by the
8 government to a business to assist in the business’s operations. Let “commission head” be an individual
9 who has authority and oversight over the other members and activities of a government commission.

10 Section 2. The West Virginia State Police budget is set to \$126,535,617 in 2024. Seeing how the current
11 budget leaves an excess sum of money unnecessary to the functionality of the state police, the Peace,
12 Land, and Bread Act aims to redistribute 10% of the budget to improving public parks and agriculture.
13 10% of the current state police budget is \$12,635,561. Not only will the redirected money improve
14 several aspects of land usage in West Virginia, but the decrease in budget will help stop the militarization
15 of the state police by restricting their ability to purchase more expensive equipment.

16 Section 3. As previously mentioned, this bill utilizes part of the redirected funds for the construction and
17 maintenance of public parks throughout West Virginia. Since the cost of construction and upkeep varies
18 depending on area, usage, and equipment, total funds for these projects will be set by a government
19 commission. This commission will be tasked with taking requests from cities and towns throughout the
20 state that wish to receive funding for public park related projects.

21 Section 4. The last purpose of this bill is to distribute the redirected funds to agricultural facilities
22 throughout the state in the form of government subsidies. The usage of these subsidies is to cover part
23 of the cost of producing agricultural products, which in turn will encourage and lead to agricultural
24 products being sold at lower prices. The subsidies will be distributed to farms and other agricultural
25 projects by a government commission. This commission will be tasked to take requests from possible
26 recipients, or offer subsidies to worthwhile recipients, while also being tasked to try to focus on
27 distributing the subsidies to local agricultural operations rather than large multi-state companies.

28 Section 5. Finally, this section will clarify the details on the commission this bill will create. The
29 commission will be known as the Peace, Land, and Bread Commission, or the PLBC. The head of the
30 commission will be appointed by the Governor, and the rest of the commission members will be selected
31 by the commission head. The commission will have relative freedom to use the \$12,635,561 that will be
32 immediately redirected to the commission after its creation for the tasks given by this bill. This freedom
33 includes deciding how to distribute the funds between the multiple tasks. The members of this
34 commission are subject to removal off the commission by the commission head or governor if the
35 commission is found to be improperly or ineffectively distributing or using funds.

36 Section 6. This bill will go into effect 60 days after passage.

A BILL

Future for Veterans

To offer careers and assurance of a stable life to veterans

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

2 Section 1. (A) Veteran – a person who has served in the military, especially those who fought in
3 conflicts

4 Section 2. This bill is to be enacted as a repayment to those who risked their lives for the future of this
5 country. Veterans returning from conflict are often left without a source of income. The assurance of a
6 stable source of income will be provided to those struggling with valid proof of military service.

7 Section 3. The passage of this bill will provide a hopeful future to veterans. The unselfish acts of those
8 who served should not be disregarded. The guaranteed right to a career provides loyal citizens with
9 new opportunities to continue living a normal life. The benefits of this bill are not limited to the
10 struggling veterans. The state will gain thousands looking for work, boosting the economy.

11 Section 4. This bill may require the creation of jobs from government funded projects or an agency can
12 find and secure jobs for those eligible.

13 Section 5. This bill will go into effect on Veterans Day, November 11th, 2024

2024 WEST VIRGINIA YLA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT DIRECTORY

EXECUTIVE		
NAME	DELEGATION	TITLE
Nick Albright	Hedgesville	Associate Justice
Shane Arthur	James Monroe	Secretary of Administration
Emma Ballard	James Monroe	Chief of Staff
Piper Cook	Wyoming East	Secretary of Health & Human Resources
Amanda Flora	Point Pleasant	Secretary of Tourism
Ethan Freed	Wirt County	Associate Justice
Gavin French	James Monroe	Senate Clerk
Evelyn Jennings	Hedgesville	Secretary of Education
Thomas Lyons	Hedgesville	Associate Justice
Sarah McBee	John Marshall	Senate Chaplain
MJ Niggemyer	Grafton	Secretary of Economic Development
LeiAnn Richmond	James Monroe	Associate Justice
Liam Savage	Preston	Speaker of the House
Thomas Sibold	James Monroe	President of the Senate
Cole Thomas	James Monroe	Youth Chief Justice
Ella Waters	Hedgesville	Youth Governor
Hannah Willis	James Monroe	House Chaplain

PRESS	
NAME	DELEGATION
Zoey Baird	John Marshall
Claire Charlton	Hedgesville
Avery Etzel	John Marshall
Kahlen Halstead	Point Pleasant
Shelby Hamrick	Lewis County
Hope Lamb	Lewis County
China Lambert	Wyoming East
Emma Null	Hedgesville
Kailynn Putney	Point Pleasant
Lauren Rice*	John Marshall
Joshua Tilley	Wyoming East
Max Williams	John Marshall

Editor/Press Secretary*

2024 WEST VIRGINIA YLA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT DIRECTORY Continued

JUDICIAL	
NAME	DELEGATION
Lincoln Amos	Wirt County
Paige Amos	James Monroe
Brodie Baker	John Marshall
Sydney Barnhart	John Marshall
Jacob Boyette	John Marshall
Kerstyn Clendenen	Point Pleasant
Jamie Collins	Wirt County
Maggie Conrad	Wirt County
Katelyn Duckworth	Wirt County
Danni Dunbar	James Monroe
Pacey Frum	Point Pleasant
Grace Gatts	John Marshall
Joelle Gonchoff	John Marshall
Kristofer Halstead	James Monroe
Olivia Hanna	Point Pleasant
Cheyenne Harvey	John Marshall
Kollin Hatfield	Hedgesville
Alina Holliday	John Marshall
Gracie Hunter	John Marshall
Shyann Hurst	James Monroe
Raleigh Jackson	James Monroe
Kylee Johnson	Buckhannon-Upshur
Alana Kaniecki	John Marshall
Amelia Kaste	John Marshall
Emma Mann	James Monroe
Abbi Mathis	James Monroe
Cameron McCord	John Marshall
Allie McGraw	John Marshall
Tripp McMillion	James Monroe
Catie Milliman	Hedgesville
Jesse Pappaianni	Wirt County
Delaney Pearson	Point Pleasant
Shelby Plants	Point Pleasant
Lila Roman	John Marshall

2024 WEST VIRGINIA YLA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT DIRECTORY

Continued

JUDICIAL (CONTINUED)	
NAME	DELEGATION
Ash Roth	John Marshall
Carol Russell	Wirt County
Lylla Shorter	James Monroe
Lilly St. Clair	James Monroe
Rosslyn St. Clair	James Monroe
Emily Suarez	John Marshall
Ben Supple	Point Pleasant
Bryer Surface	James Monroe
Rylie Surface	James Monroe
Lanie Taylor	James Monroe
Peyton Trippett	Point Pleasant
Katherine Viars	James Monroe
Kami Watson	Point Pleasant
Joan Wilkerson	Buckhannon-Upshur
Brendolynn Williams	Wirt County
Alexis Wuchner	Buckhannon-Upshur
Zoe Zervos	John Marshall

LOBBYISTS	
NAME	DELEGATION
Bailey Brubaker	James Monroe
Lily Cross	Wirt County
Carlee Lane	Wyoming East
Connor Lundy	Wyoming East
Caroline Wellman	Grafton

PAGES		
NAME	DELEGATION	ASSIGNMENT
Andrew Lusk	Wyoming East	House Committee 3
Morgan Carlin	John Marshall	House Chamber / House 1
Ella Games	John Marshall	House Chamber / House 2
Brendan Pendry	Wyoming East	House Committee 1
Emily Lyons	Wyoming East	Senate Chamber / Senate 1
Owen Shreve	Grafton	Page to the Governor
BrookeLynn Smith	Wyoming East	Senate Committee 2
Logan Perdue	Wyoming East	House Chamber / House 3
Kiley Shrewsbury	Wyoming East	Senate Committee 2
Brock Phillips	Mingo	Senate Chamber / Senate 1

2024 WEST VIRGINIA YLA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT DIRECTORY

Continued

LEGISLATIVE				
NAME	DELEGATION	SEAT	HEARD IN	MEMBER OF
Emily Adkins	Wyoming East	H 77	H 03	H 02
James Alkire	Lewis County	H 29	H 03	H 01
Sophia Austin	Grafton	H 75	H 01	H 02
Lauren Bailey	Ripley	H 17	H 02	H 03
Teonna Barton	John Marshall	S 29	S 02	S 01
Ava Belt	Buckhannon-Upshur	H 15	H 03	H 01
Leila Brock*	Mingo	H 20	H 03	H 02
Maxine Brock*	Mingo	H 69	H 02	H 01
Johnny Chen	Buckhannon-Upshur	S 02	S 02	S 01
Jax Cook	Wyoming East	S 24	S 02	S 01
Zane Cook	Wyoming East	S 23	S 02	S 01
Brooke Cross*	Wirt County	H 16	H 01	H 02
AC Cumberledge	John Marshall	S 22	S 02	S 01
Alexis Dillon	Wyoming East	H 31	H 01	H 03
Conner Dillon	James Monroe	H 66	H 02	H 01
Annadra Dudley*	John Marshall	S 17	S 01	S 02
Troy Entenmann	James Monroe	H 64	H 03	H 02
Lillian Fetty	Buckhannon-Upshur	H 14	H 03	H 01
Cole Fogus	James Monroe	H 70	H 01	H 03
Konnor Fox	Wyoming East	H 78	H 03	H 02
Allie Frye	Buckhannon-Upshur	S 15	S 01	S 02
Katelin Fullen	James Monroe	H 72	H 02	H 03
Iain Furman	Wyoming East	S 30	S 01	S 02
Megan Gary	John Marshall	H 21	H 02	H 01
Kayla Greathouse	Grafton	H 19	H 02	H 03
Caitlin Hall	Hedgesville	H 73	H 03	H 01
Charles Harrison	Ripley	H 18	H 02	H 03
Aubrey Haskins	Ripley	S 13	S 02	S 01
Kal Hill	John Marshall	H 22	H 02	H 01
Opal Huffman	Ripley	H 24	H 03	H 02
CJ Hyde	John Marshall	H 80	H 01	H 03
Bryce Isner	Grafton	H 28	H 02	H 01
Sophie Jenkins	Ripley	S 16	S 01	S 02

Committee Chair*

2024 WEST VIRGINIA YLA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT DIRECTORY Continued

LEGISLATIVE (CONTINUED)				
NAME	DELEGATION	SEAT	HEARD IN	MEMBER OF
Elio Johnson	Lewis County	H 26	H 01	H 03
Avery Kaniecki	John Marshall	S 09	S 01	S 02
Emily King	Ripley	S 06	S 02	S 01
Garnet Kish	Ripley	H 23	H 03	H 02
Anna Grace Lantz	Buckhannon-Upshur	S 14	S 01	S 02
Bella Lee	Ripley	S 08	S 01	S 02
Sophia Lee	Ripley	S 05	S 02	S 01
Holly Lewis	Buckhannon-Upshur	S 01	S 02	S 01
Ella McNeish	Buckhannon-Upshur	H 68	H 01	H 02
Ally Miller	James Monroe	H 67	H 02	H 01
Addison Nethken	Grafton	H 76	H 01	H 02
Jayce Paynter	James Monroe	H 65	H 03	H 02
Owen Perdue	James Monroe	S 19	S 02	S 01
Lilly Roman	John Marshall	S 10	S 01	S 02
Colin Savage	Preston	S 03	S 01	S 02
Liam Savage	Preston	N/A	N/A	H 03
Danielle Scantlin	Ripley	S 04	S 01	S 02
Delaney Seeders	Hedgesville	H 74	H 03	H 01
Emma Shockey	Ripley	S 12	S 02	S 01
Tyler Shrewsbury	Wyoming East	H 30	H 01	H 03
Christian Sibold	James Monroe	S 20	S 02	S 01
Marra Tharp	John Marshall	H 79	H 01	H 03
Kyleigh Towe	Point Pleasant	S 11	S 01	S 02
Jackson Vanhoose*	Ripley	S 07	S 02	S 01
William Wagoner	Lewis County	H 27	H 01	H 03
Eli Ward	John Marshall	S 28	S 02	S 01
Tricia Ward	John Marshall	S 21	S 02	S 01
Zakk Wells	John Marshall	S 18	S 01	S 02
Tommy Wikel	Wyoming East	S 31	S 01	S 02
Hannah Willis	James Monroe	H 71	H 02	H 03

Committee Chair*

2024 WEST VIRGINIA YLA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT DIRECTORY

Continued

ADVISORS		
NAME	DELEGATION	ASSIGNMENT
Brian Allman	Buckhannon-Upshur	Senate Chamber Co-Advisor
Amy Clendenen	Point Pleasant	Court Co-Advisor
Kristin DeWees	Ripley	Bill Coordinator
Anthony Dunn	Wyoming East	Page Advisor
Jennifer Eiler	Lewis County	House Chamber Co-Advisor
Christina Gary	John Marshall	Hotel Advisor
Josh Gary	John Marshall	House Chamber Advisor
Deborah Gump	Lewis County	House Committee 1
Sonya Holliday	John Marshall	Court Co-Advisor
Abbie Loudin	Buckhannon-Upshur	House Committee 3
Ashley Mann	James Monroe	Bus Advisor
Rebekah McCloy	Wirt County	Court Co-Advisor
Melissa Pearson	Point Pleasant	Lobbyist Advisor
April Petrovsky	Wirt County	House Committee 2
Angela Savage	Preston	Senate Committee 1
Jamie Savage	Preston	Senate Committee 1
Stormy Thorne	James Monroe	Press Advisor
Renee Wilson	James Monroe	Senate Committee 2
Maureen Zaycosky-Null	Hedgesville	Governor/Cabinet Advisor
Richard Zukowski	Grafton	Senate Chamber Advisor

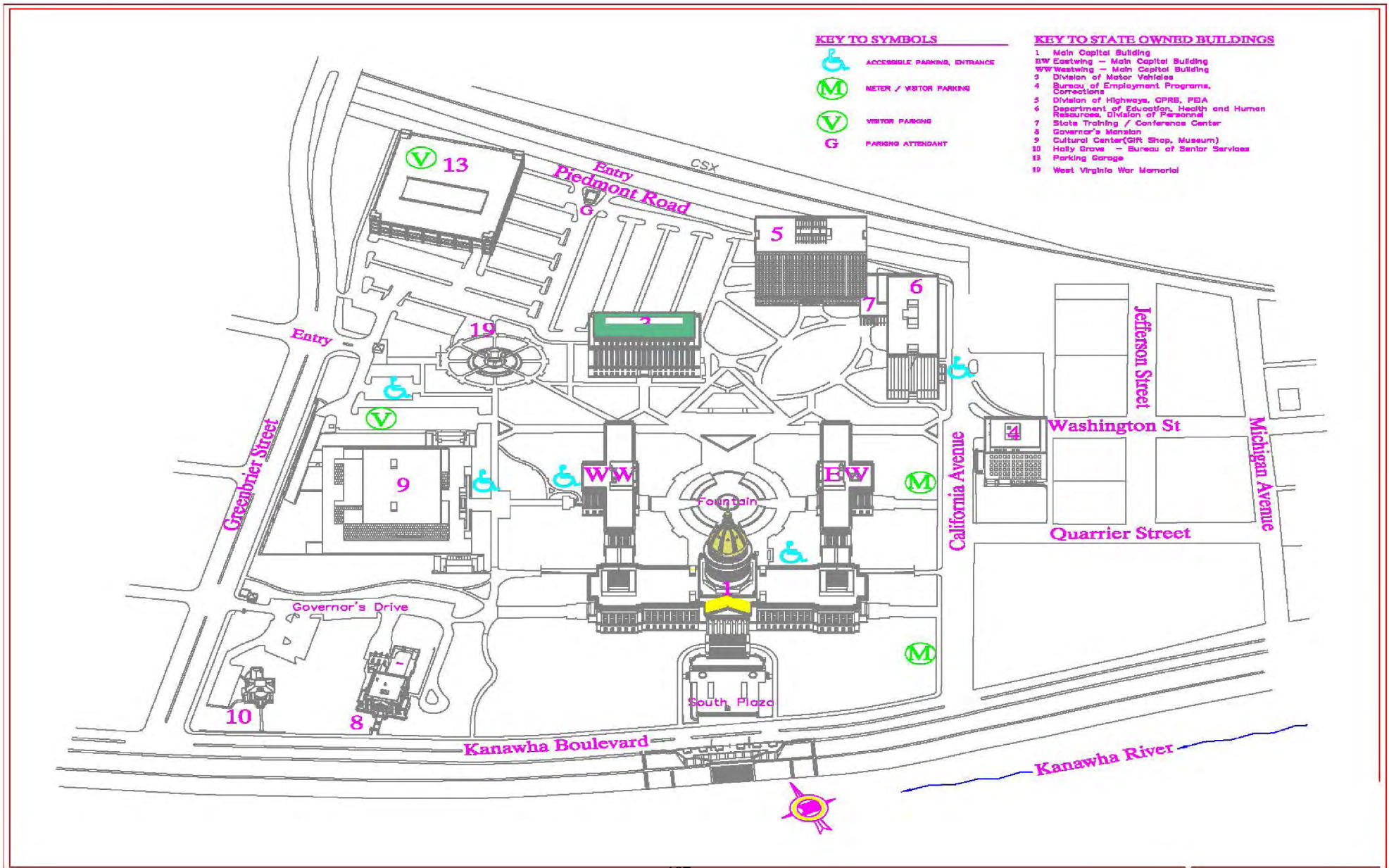
STAFF / VOLUNTEERS	
NAME	POSITION
David Cooper	Volunteer
Colton Gibbs	Volunteer
David King	YLA Director
Alicia Ridenour	YLA Fiscal Officer
Payton Shreve	Volunteer
Sophie Slaughter	Volunteer

Thank you!

**To all the advisors and
volunteers. We couldn't
do this without you!**

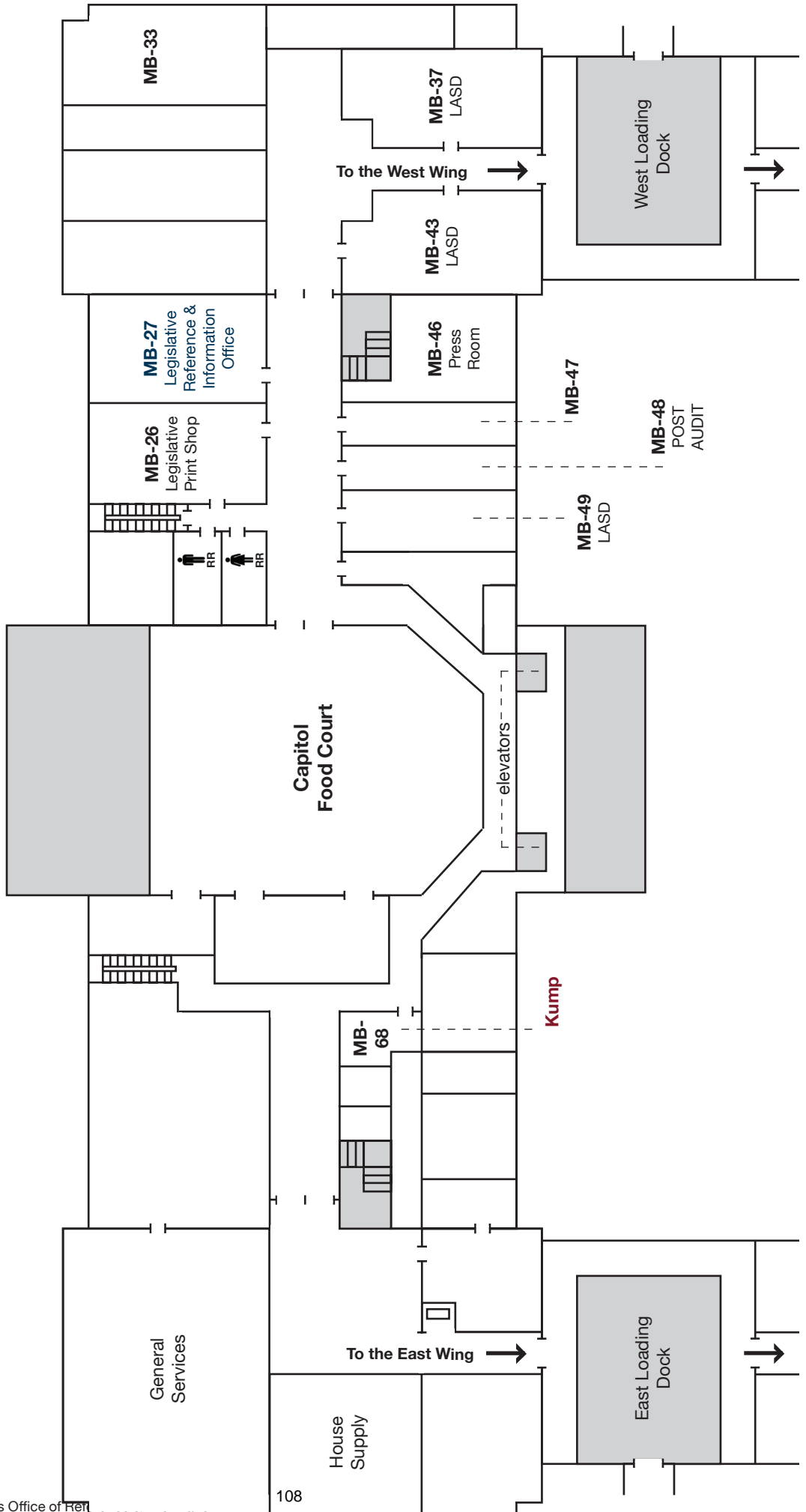
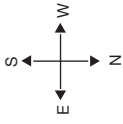
West Virginia State Capitol Maps

State Capitol Grounds



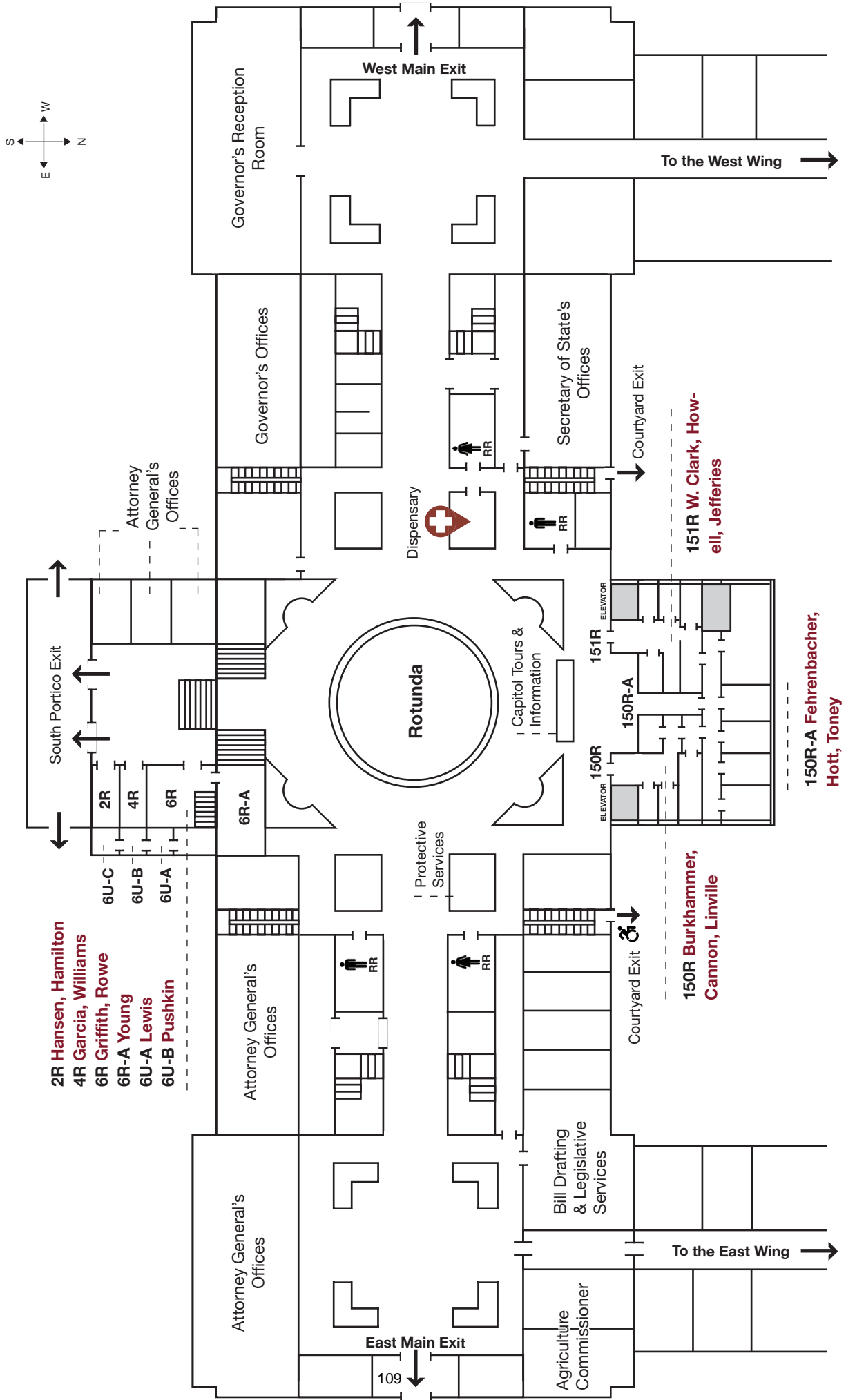
WEST VIRGINIA STATE CAPITOL MAPS

Main Building - Basement



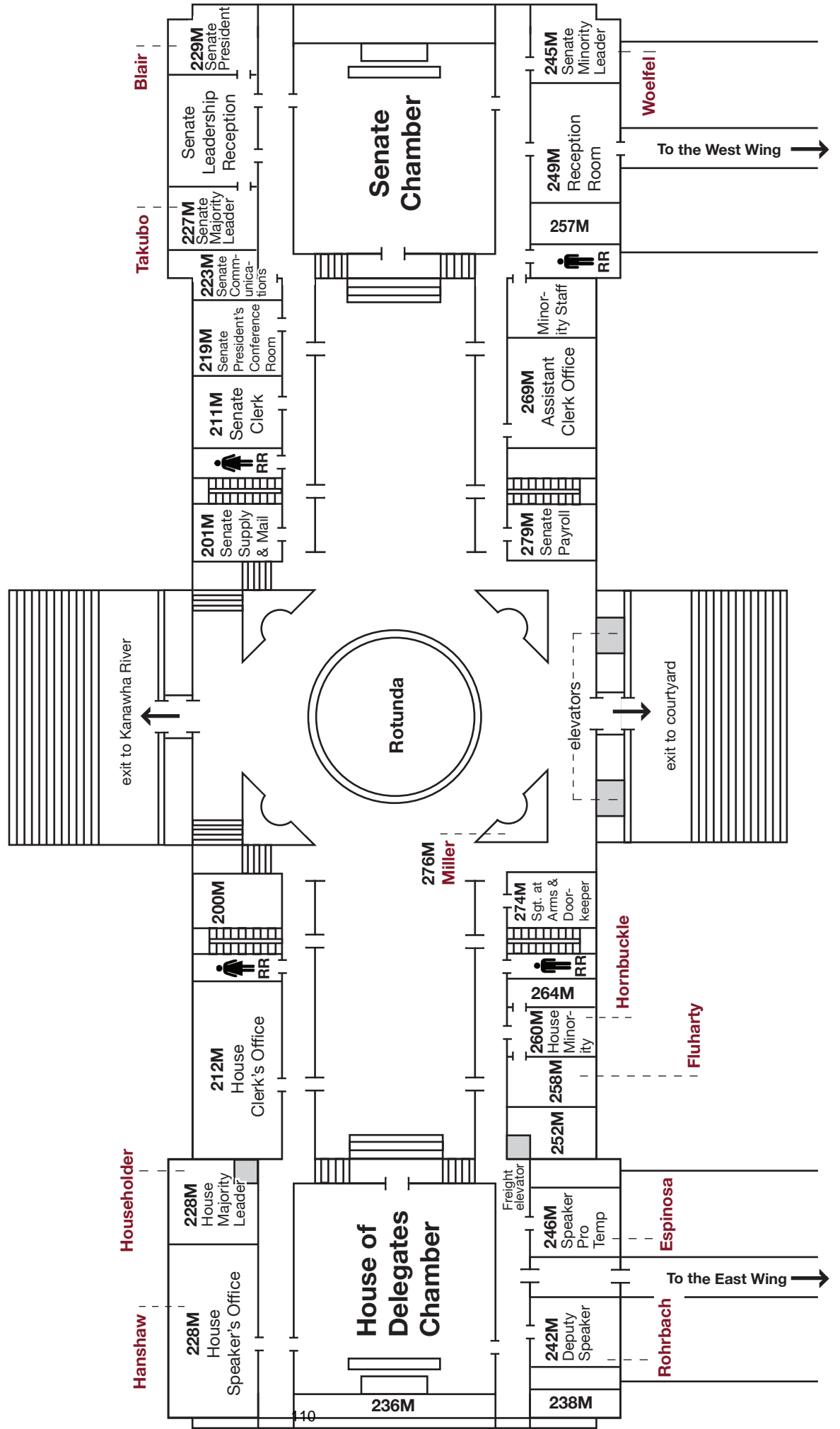
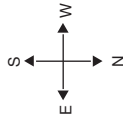
WEST VIRGINIA STATE CAPITOL MAPS

Main Building - Ground Floor



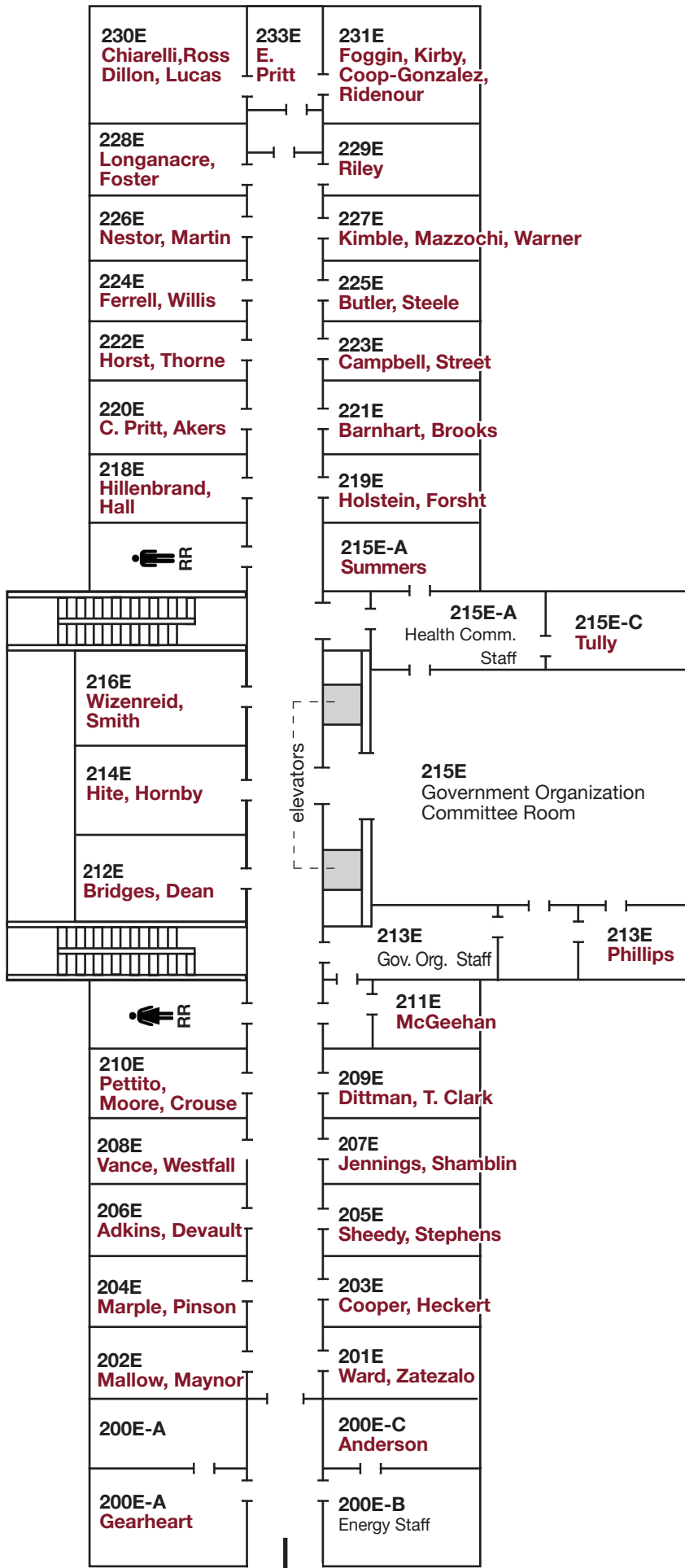
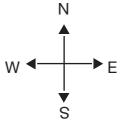
WEST VIRGINIA STATE CAPITOL MAPS

Main Building - Second Floor



WEST VIRGINIA STATE CAPITOL MAPS

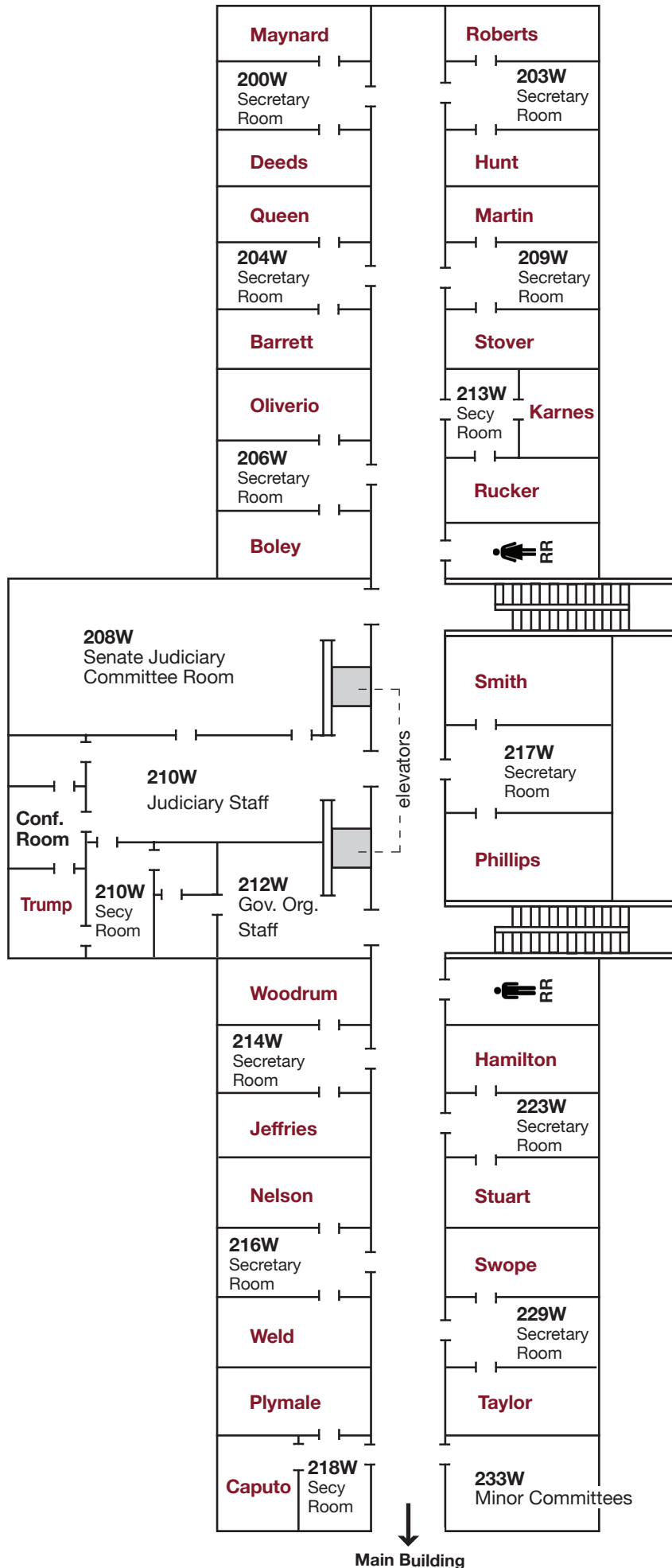
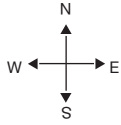
East Wing - Second Floor - House of Delegates



Main Building
112

WEST VIRGINIA STATE CAPITOL MAPS

West Wing - Second Floor - Senate



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Officer Responsibilities and Qualifications

YG officers are members of a YLA currently affiliated with the YLA Leadership Center. Officers are elected at the end of a YG session to serve through the next YG. The year of service is an opportunity to develop and use one's skills, improve YG, help other students have a positive YG experience, involve new schools and students, and advance YLA's youth leadership program.

Local YLA Nomination

Before a YLA holds its nominating meeting, be sure every candidate has the competence, commitment, time, people and social skills as well as attitudes required for to develop and lead others. Officers must be at ease in diverse places including Horseshoe, YLA conferences and retreats, Bill/Case Rating and YG.

Candidates must win the nomination of their local YLA for the office sought.

In other words, a person cannot just decide to run for an office. The person must secure the nomination of their local YLA.

Delegations may nominate no more than one (1) candidate per office.

The local YLA must have an officer nominating meeting. Every candidate is to have a chance to seek nomination. If there is more than one candidate seeking the nomination for an office, their local YLA will take a vote. The winner of that vote becomes the nominee.

Delegations submit their official nomination (s) on the Officer Candidate Nomination form in the Legislative manual by the deadline in the YG Calendar.

Potential Candidates

Before seeking the nomination for an office, make sure –

- ◆ Officers lead YG for a year in diverse places and programs. An officer must be at ease in YLA Summits, conferences and retreats, Bill/Case Rating, and YG. These places are intentionally chosen for the unique ways each calls people to engage with people in community building. YG is much more than parliamentary procedure, passing laws and debate.

Governor and Cabinet, Speaker, President, Chief Justice and Associate Justices participate in the Summer Leadership Summit at Horseshoe. All other officers including the appointed Press Editor are invited and welcome to join them at the Summit!

YG is about being a citizen with others . . . and this takes place in real places where people must act to build community. Because these places and programs are reality – not a virtual reality – they require real people (officers) whose positive attitudes and actions build responsible and engaged citizens.

- ◆ One can commit the time, work and money the position requires. Check one's calendar, check with parents and be sure the family's calendar will allow the commitment of the significant time the office requires. Check one's financial position – that of the family and the local YLA to be sure the money is available. If both time and money are available, lock them in to assure they will still be available if the office is won.

Do not seek the office, get it, and later ask to be excused from any of the position' responsibilities. Other defeated candidates were fully prepared to carry out their duties at these four programs and there were others who did not run because they could not.

- ◆ An officer who does not fulfill their responsibilities may resign or may be removed from office. If that happens, another person will be appointed or elected to the position. The new officer will complete the term of office through April YG.

Nomination for Office

Responsibility of the Nominating YLA

Nominate candidates with the competence to do the job. Please see Officer Duties, Local Nomination and Potential Candidates information above and Officer Responsibilities below.

Officer Responsibilities

Lead from the bottom up – not the top down

Set the example:

- ◆ Do what one asks and/or expects others to do;
- ◆ Help others do and become their best;
- ◆ Assert the purpose of YLA Youth In Government to peers;
- ◆ Insist peers achieve the highest levels of competence, personal and group conduct, respect for others Youth in Government and in facilities our program uses;
- ◆ Practice our core values of Respect – Responsibility – Caring – Trustworthiness – Honesty – Fairness – Citizenship.

Attitude

- ◆ Positive, likes people, welcomes and involves others, helps others succeed.
- ◆ At ease in diverse places including Summit at Horseshoe, YLA conferences and retreats, Bill / Case Rating and at YG – each place is different and all are deliberately chosen to engage people with people building understanding and community building – wants to be in these places to enjoy the experience.
- ◆ Puts others first, thinks and acts based on what is best for the group.

Responsible

- ◆ Accept and carry out responsibility;
- ◆ Recognize that Youth in Government is youth led and adult supported;
- ◆ Insist peers be responsible for their attitudes, decisions and actions and that they all support the purpose, procedures and conduct expected by YLA and its Youth in Government;
- ◆ Act responsibly – it is not acceptable to say “that is the Advisor’s job”;
- ◆ Capable and willing to carry out the responsibilities listed in this section of the manual.

Competence

- ◆ Know and understand your job;
- ◆ Know the procedures, carry them out and insist peers do too;
- ◆ Select others for leadership positions based on their competence;
- ◆ Teach peers how to use the procedures;
- ◆ Mature in attitudes and actions.

Involvement

- ◆ Involve others, encourage others, bring more schools and students into YG;
- ◆ Model the involvement expected by others

Term of Office - From election or appointment to the adjournment of the next YG; the job is done all year, not just at the spring YG session.

Officers at the Summer Leadership Summit

- ◆ Train for and practice one's responsibilities
- ◆ Review YG Exit Surveys
- ◆ Determine how to strengthen the program
- ◆ Present YG to all participants, encourage their participation, train students to return home ready to prepare their members
- ◆ Learn how to connect YLA's service civic engagement and values to Youth in Government
- ◆ Build a statewide network of peers practicing YLA's core values, advancing YG, and building better futures for all.

Officers at YLA Conferences and Retreats

- ◆ Be prepared in procedure, responsibility, how to do your job and do it so your example of competence sends the message everyone is to achieve the highest standards of conduct, competence, and participation.
- ◆ Involve and engage others—encourage new schools and students to participate.

At Bill/Case Rating

- ◆ Know your job so well and be able to perform it with competence that the level of performance by everyone is raised to the highest levels.

Leadership Team

Governor

Select Cabinet

- ◆ Up to 6 persons
- ◆ Only one from a school
- ◆ Ideally no one from the governor's home school
- ◆ Cabinet Applications accepted at YG and the week after YG
- ◆ YLA sends applications to Youth Governor two days after due date
- ◆ Youth governor's selections made and YLA informed one week after receipt of applications from YLA
- ◆ YLA office sends letters of appointment or not appointed
- ◆ Governor and Cabinet begin work at Horseshoe Summer Leadership Summit in June

Officers at Summit

- ◆ Governor and Cabinet review Exit Surveys to determine how to improve for next year
- ◆ With the assistance of the Cabinet, develop a legislative platform

- ◆ By week's end, Governor determines Cabinet assignments
- ◆ Assist in training peers to participate and to train their members back home
- ◆ Recruit new schools and students to participate

Public

- ◆ Serve as a member of the Youth in Government Committee
- ◆ Speak on behalf of the program at events as requested by YLA

President of the Senate and Speaker of the House

- ◆ At Leadership Summit review Exit Surveys to determine ways to improve the Student Legislature, prepare the Legislative training portion of summit, conduct the training, identify students not in YG and recruit their participation
- ◆ Lead other legislative officers present
- ◆ Preside over legislative sessions, insist all participate on an intellectual and productive level
- ◆ Involve and engage other students, encourage new schools and students to participate in YG

Lt. Governor

- ◆ Assist and support the Governor
- ◆ Preside over the Cabinet for the Governor and lead the Cabinet in its work
- ◆ Assist other students to have a successful YG experience. Encourage new school and student participation.

Clerks

- ◆ Know and practice your duties
- ◆ At the Summer Summit, YLA conferences and retreats, Bill Rating, and YG perform your duties to assist in the operation of your House or Senate
- ◆ Assist your Speaker or President
- ◆ At YG, pick up Bills and the Order of the Day from the Bill Coordinator before legislative sessions
- ◆ Keep attendance at each session
- ◆ Read the Bills including amendments as directed by the Presiding Officer
- ◆ Count votes, report vote to Presiding Officer
- ◆ Record and sign all legislation
- ◆ Return Bills to Bill Coordinator, submit completed Bill Disposition and verbally report action taken on each Bill

Chaplains

- ◆ Prepare messages with an impact calling participants to YG's purpose
- ◆ Share your leadership at summer Summit, YLA conferences and retreats, Bill Rating and of course YG
- ◆ Assist your Speaker or President

Press Editor

- ◆ Take the opportunity to join the officers at the Summer Leadership Summit, YLA conferences and retreats, Bill / Case Rating to make connections helpful to you at YG and to be in on "the ground floor" of YG preparations and operations
- ◆ Take a lead in creating outstanding YG Press Corps
- ◆ Encourage, lead, involve and insist all Press Corps members perform with competence

Cabinet

- ◆ Support and represent the Governor's view on proposed legislation
- ◆ Encourage new schools and students to participate in YG
- ◆ Help all participants succeed
- ◆ Report to the Governor legislative views of Committees, Legislature and members

Competence

An important goal is to raise the level of competence of Legislators, Committee Chairs and all Officers. Success requires a joint effort by Officers, Staff and Advisors. Officers must accept their responsibility to lead their peers in directions required for a successful YG. Officers must take on responsibility to stand up to their peers when needed to correct or re-direct them and must always stand up to lead in positive ways. Any officer who cannot do this is expected to resign so that a person who can do the job with the right attitude can be appointed to get the job done.

Before Seeking Office

Potential candidates are to be sure they have the attitudes to positively participate in and provide the leadership needed throughout the year. Candidates must be sure they can commit the time the position requires. Do not seek the office, get it and then later ask to be excused from any of the position's responsibilities. Others who ran and were defeated were fully prepared to carry out their duties and there were others who did not run because they knew they could not.

One year of previous Youth in Government experience required for Speaker and President. Governor Candidates must have two years of YG experience. Governor Candidates may count the current year participation as one of those two years.

It is not just to get the office – it is to carry out the commitments of the office.

Election Procedure at Youth in Government

Candidates demonstrate their ability to do the responsibilities of the position they seek. There is no campaign, campaign speech, campaign material, electronic or phone campaigns. Campaigning for office in the manner regularly observed in real-life politics is prohibited.

No person should be eliminated from running for office because of finances. Candidates do not "buy" an election because of "stuff" (i.e. buttons, giveaways, posters, flashy websites, business cards, etc.). It is also essential that the process of the election not overshadow the actual work being done at YLA Youth in Government or Model UN.

Candidates are to be elected based on their positions on issues, leadership and an informed electorate. We encourage members to explore the qualifications, leadership record, and character of each candidate seeking their support.

YLA reserves the right to rule on campaign-related issues that arise as a result of evolving technology. Candidates who do not follow approved campaign procedures may be disqualified from the election process.

Each YLA member is encouraged to take an active part (as a candidate, or as a voting member). Our purpose is to select the most qualified candidates for the job. Our purpose in running for offices to serve should never be overshadowed by the election process (campaigning).

Delegates are responsible to vote for the best candidate and are not to be influenced by their Advisor or other adults seeking to determine the outcome of an election.

Campaign Do's and Don'ts:

YES

- Conversations with delegates (one-on-one)
- Social Media use that is positive and does not attack other candidates. IF a candidate has a website, it must be created and hosted with absolutely no cost/expense associated with it whatsoever.
- Demonstration of abilities during each program

NO

- Speeches/campaigning during program (other than YLA-scheduled times)
- Buttons, posters, flyers, giveaways
- Social Media that attacks another candidate
- Signage/flyers at hotel or Capitol/Statehouse

Candidates Follow This Procedure

Chaplain candidates give a three (3) minute presentation that calls (challenges) the Legislature to its purpose. Chaplain candidates make presentations that demonstrate how they will perform their duties as Chaplain. Candidates for Chaplain may be asked to perform the duties of Chaplain during a session.

Clerk candidates sight read a Bill selected by the Presiding Officer.

Lt. Governor is an elected office in Ohio, not in WV. In WV YLA Youth in Government, the Senate President is the Lt. Governor. Candidates for Lt. Governor speak for 2 minutes on the "Role of the Lt. Governor in the Student Legislature."

President and Speaker candidates preside over a session of the Legislature using a Bill before the Legislature as determined by the Legislative Calendar or a Bill of their choice. The candidate selects the Bill, a person to be Clerk, Authors, Minority and Majority Reporters and Legislators to speak for and against the Bill. Candidates exhibit their knowledge of the procedure by conducting the session that lasts no more than five (5) minutes. The procedure used is:

"The Student Legislature is in session." (gavel to order)

"This being an extraordinary session, we will dispense with the Chaplain's message, and the reading of the Journal and the Order of the Day."

"Is the Author of the Bill present?" (Recognize the Author for a 30 second presentation of the Bill) "Is there a Majority Report?" (no more than 30 seconds)

"Is there a Minority Report?" (no more than 30 seconds)

"The question is, shall the Bill pass?"

After 3 to 5 minutes of discussion and debate, the Chair will call for the question and proceed with

the vote. "The question is, shall the Bill pass?" Those in favor say "aye." Those opposed, say "nay." (The Chair then declares the Bill passed or defeated.)

Governor candidates speak for 3 minutes on their "Legislative Agenda for the Student Legislature." A word of advice to Governor candidates – Avoid making "deals" with other Governor candidates to appoint each other to the Governor's Cabinet. Upon election, one may find that defeated officer candidates may not be the best person(s) to appoint. Don't get boxed in.

There is always an opportunity during the appointment period to appoint one or more defeated candidates if they apply and appear the best person(s) for the job.

Voting Procedure

A simple majority of these eligible votes determines the winning candidate.

Officer

Governor
Lt. Governor (Ohio only)
Clerk & Chaplain
Speaker
President
Chief Justice

Eligible to

Legislators, Supreme Court Justices, Press, Lobbyists, Officers
Legislators, Supreme Court Justices, Press, Lobbyists, Officers
Legislators
Members of the House
Members of the Senate
Supreme Court Justices

Note – In case of an office with only one candidate, voters mark their ballot with a "Yes" if they vote in favor of the candidate or write "No" if they oppose. Write in and unmarked ballots are not counted.

Committee Chair & Vice Chair Qualifications & Responsibilities

Committee Chairs Qualifications

1. Ideally, one year experience as a Legislative Delegate;
2. Know the procedure, implement, and engage all committee members;
3. Effective facilitating groups;
4. Participates on an intellectual and productive level;
5. Organized, keeps accurate records, works with Bill Coordinator and Committee Advisor, has excellent verbal and writing skills.

Cannot be a Bill Partner with another Committee Chair or Vice Chair candidate.

Selection Procedure

1. Candidates submit an application that is endorsed by their Advisor.
2. The Speaker and President may begin Committee Chair appointments during the Summer Summit, at YLA conferences and retreats. In the event that Chair positions are open after these times, YLA staff may make appointments.

Opportunities to Learn and to Gain Leadership Experience as a Committee Chair

1. Committee Chairs are invited and welcome to participate in the Summer Summit as well as YLA conferences and retreats for training, practice, relationship building with other students, and experience leading including leading committees.

Bill Rating/Officer Training/Committee Chair Training in February needs the active participation of Committee Chairs. This is the first time Committee Chairs get to see the student legislation proposed for the April YG. Committee Chairs also play a key role in setting the Legislative Calendar (determining when Bills are considered) by participating in the Bill Rating Process.

Responsibilities

1. Prior to Youth in Government, study all Bills assigned to the Committee and review all Bills presented to YG. It is also helpful to contact the Bill Authors who will appear before the Committee, the Lobbyists, Cabinet members and Officers.
2. Represent the committee to the Bill Coordinator.
3. Carry out the Committee procedure.
4. Lead the Committee in active participation on the Floor in the debate on Bills referred by Committee. Get your Committee members to make the Committee's views known to all members during Floor sessions.

Committee Vice Chairs

Qualifications

- ◆ Able to preside in the absence of the Chair.

Selection

- ◆ Senate Vice Chairs may be appointed prior to YG or may be appointed by a Committee Chair at YG if their Committee needs a Vice Chair. Not all Committees may have a Vice Chair. Chairs who may be away from their Committee may ask a Committee member to preside in their absence.

Responsibilities

1. Serve as Clerk of the Committee.
2. Assist the Committee Chair.
3. Preside in the absence of the Chair. The Chair, Clerk or Vice Chair cannot be Legislative partners. Both cannot be absent from the Committee at the same time.

Youth Governor and Cabinet

Governor's Cabinet

The Governor appoints Cabinet members from those who meet the requirements for the office and who apply. Applications are accepted through the week after Youth in Government.

Cabinet members join the Governor and other officers at the June Leadership Summit at Horseshoe. The Officer Leadership Corps reviews the just completed Youth in Government, identifies improvements for the new year, train for their responsibilities and engage other students at the Summit in Youth in Government sessions so they will want to participate in YG as well as return home to encourage others to participate.

The Governor seeks the advice of the Cabinet as the Governor creates a Platform. At the end of the Summit the Governor assigns Cabinet members to head a department and/or area of interest (environment, economic development, safety, education, etc.). Cabinet members are then responsible to become expert in their area.

During the year, at YLA conferences and retreats and at Bill/Case Rating the Cabinet serves as resource persons in those interest areas plus advance the position of the Governor on the issues.

At Youth in Government the Cabinet represents the Governor's interests in Committees and with Legislators. Cabinet members listen to Committee hearings and floor debates in their area of interest, act as the Governor's advocate on related legislation, and report to and advise the Governor on legislation that reaches the Governor's desk.

Successful Cabinet members –

- ◆ Are informed in the areas they represent
- ◆ Understand the legislative process
- ◆ Have excellent people skills
- ◆ Can work on their own and as part of a team
- ◆ Are good listeners and good communicators
- ◆ Help Student Legislators, Lobbyists, Press, Page, and others succeed

Youth Chief Justice and Associate Justices

Associate Justices

The Chief Justice appoints Associate Justices from those who meet the requirements for the office and who apply. Applications are accepted through the week after Youth in Government. Associate Justices join the Chief Justice and other officers at the June Leadership Summit at Horseshoe. The Chief Justice and Associate Justices review the just completed Student Supreme Court, identify improvements for the new year, train for their responsibilities and engage other students at the Summit in a Supreme Court session so they will want to participate in the Student Supreme Court at YG as well as return home to encourage others to participate in the YG Judicial program.

During the year, at Fall Conference and at Case Rating the Associate Justices assist the Chief Justice in rating the cases for consideration at YG.

Successful Associate Justices –

- ◆ Understand the YG Judicial process
- ◆ Have excellent people skills
- ◆ Can work on their own and as part of a team
- ◆ Are good listeners and good communicators
- ◆ Help others succeed

Officer Leadership Corps

YLA chapters, Youth in Government, Model United Nations Officers Lead in Building Better Futures

Officer Charter

Student officers strengthen, improve and expand all our youth programs to involve more students building better homes, schools and communities across our two states. Student officers are program leaders – in effect the youth program arm of our Ohio-West Virginia Youth Leadership Association Board.

Officers convene at a Leadership Summit at Horseshoe in June to organize, identify and plan how to strengthen all our programs, increase the numbers of students involved and the impact students will have creating the future. The opportunity is there to make differences for good building on and adding to the legacy of officer and member accomplishments that already include –

- ◆ A network of YLAs developing more informed, involved and prepared teenagers capable of governance who take responsible volunteer actions tackling issues from hunger to literacy – homelessness- entrepreneurship – safety – elderly - environment – bullying and more;
- ◆ Building Horseshoe in West Virginia into a life changing experience for hundreds of teens and children each year that is renewing the base of volunteers and leaders for our communities, state and nation;
- ◆ Launching the creation of a new nationally significant Center for Community Leadership at Cave Lake in Ohio to renew family, organizational, community, and civic life across Ohio with on-site programs for 31,000 and a statewide outreach to 6,000 youth;
- ◆ Creating one of Ohio's top ten Make A Difference Day projects at Cave Lake;
- ◆ Volunteer Teen Corps helping needy boys and girls at the Governor's Youth Opportunity Camps turn their lives to achievement;
- ◆ Using real life experience to propose legislation to the annual YG Student Legislature that every year helps hundreds of teens understand the role of state government as they propose legislative solutions for a better state;
- ◆ Enhancing understanding of the judicial system as students appeal cases to YG's Student Supreme Court;
- ◆ Opening windows on the world to teenagers presenting Resolutions in Model United Nations to solve international issues that impact the future as well as their communities, state, nation and world;
- ◆ Producing thousands of better citizens, local volunteers and leaders plus state and national leaders including former Ohio Governor and Peace Corps Director Richard Celeste, the late Ohio Chief Justice Tom Moyer, and Sylvia Mathews Burwell, Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services;
- ◆ 26th Amendment to the United States Constitution granting the vote to 18 year olds;

A Call for Officers – Now is the Time to Build the Future!

Students with the interest, commitment and time are called to step up as local YLA officers, YG and UN officers to lead YLA to increased participation, effectiveness and achievement locally and in our states. Officers begin in June's Leadership Summit at Horseshoe.

Contact the YLA Leadership Center or your Advisor to get involved.

Officer Leadership Corps

Strengthening, Improving, Building Impact in our Schools, Communities and our Two States

The Ohio-West Virginia Youth Leadership Association Board counts on officers to lead YLA, YG and UN to success. Officers with the commitment, vision and time are needed. We need officers who want to make a difference! Our work begins at our Leadership Summits. The high school Summit and the middle school Summit are in June.

Officer Corps

YLA groups are real-life laboratories of citizenship where students learn how to organize and tackle issues confronting families, their schools and communities by creating, leading and governing local YLAs. Students apply classroom and life lessons to identify, plan and take volunteer actions to improve family, school and community life. YLAs build better futures by making differences for good!

Secure your Officers before May 20th and submit their names and contact information to YLA.

Have as many officers as possible – and for sure your new President – represents you at the June Leadership Summit at Horseshoe. Assure success by getting your officers trained and on board as part of our Officer Corps.

Youth in Government Officer Corps

YG officers review the just completed program, identify ways to improve YG for the New Year, establish goals for the year and lay out a plan of action. Officers engage other students in YG sessions to motivate them to participate and to return home ready to recruit their peers.

YG officers challenge everyone at the Summit to identify issues that need solved by the volunteer actions back home. Out of tackling issues like hunger, homelessness, the environment, needs of seniors, and other problems, students propose Legislation to YG's Student Legislature.

Officer positions elected by students at YG are Governor, Lt. Governor (Ohio only), Speaker, President, Clerks of the House and Senate, Chaplains of the House and Senate, Chief Justice. Appointment positions are Governor's Cabinet, Associate Justices, Press Editor and Committee Chairs.

Model United Nations Officer Corps

UN officers review the just completed program, identify ways to improve UN for the New Year, establish goals for the year and lay out a plan of action. Officers engage other students in UN sessions to motivate them to participate and to return home ready to recruit their peers. YLA will offer separate high school and middle school UN Assemblies.

UN officers challenge everyone at the Summit to identify international issues that need solutions and gain understanding how world issues impact their communities and future. Resolutions presented by students to the Model UN extend YLA's impact beyond the community and state to the world. Hunger, the environment, illiteracy, health and energy are just some world issues confronting our communities that YLA students tackle.

Officer positions elected by students at UN are President of the General Assembly, Secretary General, and Council Presidents. Appointment positions are Vice President of Councils.

CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR:
Michael (MJ) Niggemyer
Grafton YLA



1. This is my third year participating in Youth in Government: in 2022 I was a delegate, 2023 I was Secretary of Transportation, and I am currently Secretary of Economic Development.
2. I can work with others very well and am very open to anybody's opinion. I've led groups before and feel I am someone that can take action when needed. I also can come up with ideas to improve things and think I am a rather bright individual.
3. My style of leadership is to get as involved as possible I whatever I can to help better others. I work with others better than most people that I know, and most importantly I always try to do what I feel is right and will help others improve.
4. I currently run cross country during the fall, play basketball in the winter, and run track in the spring. Along with that I am an active member in Hispanic National Honors Society, National Honors Society, our YLA, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and I am currently the Historian of our Future Business Leaders of America delegation.
5. I referee youth and scholastic sports within our community and the entirety of North Central West Virginia. I also volunteer to help coach the middle school track team in my free time in the spring.
6. The past two summers I have spent a combined 7 weeks volunteering at Camp Horseshoe for YOC. That experience has improved me as a human more than any other thing I have done.

Candidate for Governor:
Thomas Sibold
James Monroe YLA



Youth in Government Experience: My first experience with the YLA was in my 7th grade year during a virtual Fall conference event. After being exposed to all the great opportunities that I saw during this event I knew this organization was something I wanted to pursue. From there I attended the 8th grade youth in government seminars and became even more intrigued by the process of government. Inspired by this I attended the 2022 Youth in Government with my partner and followed the process from committee to the chamber and finally to the Governor's office. Concurrently during this session I was running for Senate clerk and was able to secure the position. The following year I served my position of Senate Clerk and was fortunately elected as this year's President of the Senate!

Qualifications for Office: YLA has always been something I've been involved in and I believe my experience with the program is what can set me apart. From working with the past governors and officers I have seen what has been successful and the positive traits of these various leaders. Growing with the program is something I have seen in myself and hope to continue. Going from not being able to speak to anyone I didn't know to addressing large crowds, I hope to inspire this in each and everyone of you.

Leadership style: Leadership is a subjective topic that can greatly vary from person to person, but I have noticed some common variables in the great leaders of history as well as some of the great leaders I've encountered on a personal basis. The first is being a good combination of Laissez Faire as well as being involved because based on my experience I know that being a leader is not just talking the most but rather letting the strengths of individuals in a group become the backbone of success. Furthermore, being able to guide the focus of the goal while also being confident enough to let your group know when they may be straying from the goal is imperative to excellent leadership and is something that will be incorporated into my governorship.

School involvement: At James Monroe I am an active member of many of the opportunities available to me. Firstly I am an active member of our school YLA club for the past 3 years. FCA is another club offered at James Monroe in which I attend every event and have led some smaller group sessions. Thirdly, Sports is an activity I have been involved in since I could walk, particularly soccer where I have been captain where our team has had the best record in the last decade. The other sport I am involved in is Track where I have found an unexpected enjoyment in running. Recently I joined our school's HOSA club where I attended the State Leadership Conference and served as the school's parliamentarian. Last year I was inducted into the National Honor Society and this was inducted into the National Technical Honor Society. Lastly I have been involved in the Model United Nations club where I have traveled to Boston for a competition and went to the YLA Model United Nations.

Community involvement: Outside of school my most active involvement is in our local 4-H club. Similar to YLA, 4-H has many community service projects which serve our local public. For example we annually make wreaths for the local town of Union for Christmas as well going to a local nursing home to give flowers. 4-H also has a competition aspect of it where I have found success and gone to Oklahoma to the National Land Judging competition. There we won

first place in the nation as a team and I placed 3rd and 9th individually in two of the sections of competition. On top of Land Judging I competed in the National 4-H Quiz Bowl competition where I placed 7th individually. Youth soccer is something I have been involved in for the last year where I have refereed little league games and assisted in coaching.

Meaningful Service Project: This past summer I had the opportunity to volunteer at Youth Opportunity Camp, which if you ask anyone who has volunteered there it is one the most amazing opportunities available. I was able to be a counselor and a mentor to the youth at this camp. It was such an eye opening experience. From there I found my love for service to these grateful and jubilant youth who I found made me just as happy as I hoped to make them. Whether it is being their best friend for a week or just simply being able to comfort them the impact on me was immeasurable.

Candidate for Speaker of the House:

Lelia Brock
Mingo YLA



1. 1 previous year, House Delegate
2. If elected speaker of the House, I would be open to all views and I would effectively advocate for every member of the YLA. I would be prepared and responsible and jump on every opportunity to better Youth in Government and the YLA as a whole.
3. I feel I have a “transformational” leadership style. I like to make everyone feel involved and help people to break from their shells and become the best versions of themselves. I believe this style of leadership will help the other delegates because the best way to get the full experience and learn the most at YG is to participate in every way possible. With my style of leadership, I would help participants to meet new people and make new friends and to feel comfortable enough to participate.
4. My school is very small, so one thing I can participate in is Youth Group, which is an after school club where we plan community service projects to improve the community and our school. Outside of school, I am a young entrepreneur, as part owner of a small home baking business, Sprinkles Sweets.
5. By far, the most meaningful service experience was volunteering at the Youth Opportunity Camp. Working with and for children is one of my passions and spending my July working at Camp Horseshoe helping underprivileged kids was a perfect way to do that.

Candidate for Speaker of the House:

Kal-el Hill
John Marshall



Kal-el Hill

Past Youth in Government participation: I've always been extremely interested in government. When my best friend, Megan, told me about YLA my freshman year I knew it was something I wanted to pursue. When I joined my sophomore year, I immediately ran to be an officer of my delegation. When I got the chance to attend both Ohio and West Virginia YG last year I jumped at the offer. Being part of the judicial program in Ohio was an experience that not only introduced me to how YG works but also how to make friends, connections and build relationships. Although I enjoyed judicial, the legislative process was what I was most excited to be a part of. Writing a bill and fighting for something I thought was right was one of the best experiences of my life.

Qualifications for the office: As 2025 class president and a two-year officer of my delegation I have learned how to listen and respect other people's ideas and opinions and take them into consideration. I have learned to represent the interests of my fellow students and understand diverse perspectives. As class president I have worked to facilitate an environment where everyone feels they can express their opinions without judgement and have that opinion taken seriously. As I previously mentioned, I participated in both Judicial and Legislative programs at YG. This experience gives a unique perspective to the office. With experience in both programs, I can understand the complex issues that are at hand and the frustrations my fellow students may feel.

Style of leadership: If I am elected speaker, I will make sure that the environment is positive where people can feel safe, comfortable, and accepted. I want people to feel that they can speak freely and voice their ideas and opinions and know they will be heard. I will treat every bill that comes into the house chamber equally, no matter how much I may agree or disagree with it. I want people to know that they can talk to me not just about their bills but also as a friend. Making friends and connections, understanding people's point of view the most valuable tool to be an effective leader. June 21st, 1963, President Kennedy visited the mountain state and declared "The sun may not always shine here in West Virginia, but the people always do." That statement could not be truer, especially with the youth of this state and I would be honored to be a representative of you as Speaker of the House.

School Involvement: Outside of YLA a huge part of my life is music. I am a member of my school's marching and concert bands, symphony orchestra and musical theatre program. Earning membership to the International Thespian Society is one of my proudest achievements in High School. As previously mentioned, I am class president and on prom committee. I love history and reading as well.

Community Activities: Over the summer I participated in a musical put on by a small local theatre in my community. Performing for people is one of my favorite activities, getting to do that for such a supportive community is truly something special.

Meaningful Service Experience: For the past two years, I've volunteered to work concession stands to raise money for my class and for my YLA delegation. Doing this with my friends is always a fun way to get to know members of the community and learn valuable people skills.

Candidate for Speaker of the House:

Hannah Willis

James Monroe YLA



1. I attended the 8th grade seminars, 9th grade I was a bill author, and this upcoming year I will be the House Chaplain.
2. I have had three years of experience with Youth in Government and I am comfortable with public speaking.
3. I believe that everyone has something to offer so I often incorporate others when making a decision.
4. I am a member of FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes), FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America), Academic Showdown, and I have played varsity soccer for my high-school the past two years.
5. I like to help out with my church's functions and I have helped run History Bowl practices.
6. I helped to paint my church's campsite the week before camp was going to start. It made me realize how much went into running a camp and how much the people in my community cared about each other to take time out of their day to help with this. I loved being able to be a part of something that I enjoyed.

Candidate for House Clerk:

Zoe Zervos
John Marshall YLA



Officer nomination form questions- House Clerk

1. For the past three years, I have attended Camp Horseshoe, and, as of this past fall, have attended fall conference. I have never held a position before for this is my first year being within the schools program, but am hoping to obtain one for the future.
2. Some of the attributes that I believe I have include good communicational skills, strong reading and writing abilities, and an open mind. I feel as though these qualities are suitable for the position and are needed to in order to be successful. Another qualification that I can bring is another perspective, and working with others to discuss various ideas.
3. I tend to lead towards a motivational-type style of leadership. Based on past experiences, I have come to believe this is the most effective and efficient way to get things done. Encouragement helps in keeping everyone in positive spirits, and gets much more accomplished.
4. Aside from being in YLA, I am also a member of the student council program. Some sports teams I participate in include soccer, cross country, swimming, and track. I have been playing the violin in the school system for 10 years now. I am a co-manager of an in school business called monarch grounds, a student owned coffee shop.

5. In my community, I volunteer for the Wheeling Symphony Student Program, in which I set up and tear down for various events that occur in my area. I also attend various strings programs, such as my local youth symphony and play in the orchestra there. I volunteer with my church's programs as well, with things such as making holiday meals for those in need.
6. One especially meaningful service I took part in was with the Wheeling Elks association. More than 4,000 dollars worth of thanksgiving food items were donated, such as gravy, beans, stuffing, biscuits, and other food items. Our delegation worked at packing boxes and boxes of these meals, and were able to give away hundreds of meals for those in need. This service really made me feel as though I was helping out in my society and making a difference along with so many others.

Candidate House Chaplain:

Maxine Brock
Mingo YLA



1. One previous year as a House Delegate.
2. As the House Chaplin, I will provide effective communication skills, inclusion of all races and religions, and the ability to recite a prayer loudly and clearly.
3. I believe my style of leadership is very sympathetic. I like to hear everyone's opinions and conflicts and advise them in the right direction. As a leader, I create a positive and supportive environment where team members feel valued, respected, and motivated to perform their best.
4. My school is extremely small, but we do have a Youth Group that I am currently the president of. We provide for our school and community and participate in fellowshiping activities.
5. I am a small business co-owner of Sprinkles' Sweets and a part of my local Chamber of Commerce.
6. The most meaningful service experience I have ever had is by far volunteering at Camp Horseshoe for the Youth Opportunity Camp. I have been for a total of 4 weeks in 2 years and I do not regret a single second. Being able to help those kids has been such a fulfilling opportunity and I hope that I was as impactful to those kids as they were to me. YOC has changed my perspective on life for the better.

Candidate for President of the Senate:

Gavin French
James Monroe



Past YG Participation: Since my freshman year, I have been heavily involved in YLA and its programs. I held no position as a freshman but was introduced to some responsibilities as a vice chair during my sophomore year. As a junior, I am now the Senate Clerk and hope to continue my tenure as an officer.

Qualifications: Starting in middle school, I searched for ways to expand my leadership abilities, and push myself personally to grow in as many ways possible. I have been class president since 8th grade and have helped voice the opinions and needs of my peers through this position. I try my hardest to delegate decisions to those I interact with, and make sure that every opinion is understood, respected, and considered when deciding for the betterment of my class/school.

Style of Leadership: This method of leadership is one that I hope to apply to my peers in YLA as well, instead of becoming too assertive and making rash assumptions that don't suit the needs of my group. Taking action towards adversity is very important to successful leadership, and I hope to spearhead any issues that arise during my time in YLA as an officer.

Extracurricular Activities/Community Interests: I play Football and am a member of Marching/Concert Band playing tuba, and I participate in YLA MUN as well. Earlier this year, I was given an opportunity to attend HMUN as a delegate of Syria as well, which was a very engaging and fun experience. With my membership in SGA, I am given many opportunities to serve my community which allows me to stay connected with groups outside of school, such as the American Legion and local food pantries. I take every chance I get to serve others and better my community, to show gratitude for the support it shows to our school and programs. I have also served communities outside of my local area, through YLA.

Meaningful Service Experience: This summer, I took advantage of an offer to be a counselor at YOC, which completely changed my perspective on so many things. Throughout my time there, I made bonds and formed relationships with so many amazing kids who engaged with me every day and progressed so much during their time at camp. The examples of kindness and compassion that they showed to each other, and the leaps and bounds they made when dealing with conflicts let me see how strong and powerful people can be when working towards a common goal. I hope to attend YOC again this year for the entire month and continue helping others as much as I can.

Candidate for President of the Senate:

Sarah McBee

John Marshall YLA



1. Despite being a sophomore, I have accumulated a significant amount of Youth in Government experience. My 8th year I was selected along with three others from my school to attend Youth in Government Seminars. Like YG, YGS is a jam-packed weekend that provides participants from around the state with an introduction to government in our very capital. This weekend was pivotal to my passion for government; I've been with obsessed with learning, observing, and now being an active participant in each of my YG roles. Last year, due to band conflicts, my delegation was allowed to attend both Ohio and West Virginia YG. In some miraculous manner, we were short an attorney for Ohio YG, and I was the fill-in. Throughout the weekend, I became increasingly more aware of how interactive, hands-on programs like YG have the power to teach its participants so much more than a textbook ever could. Eventually, I lost my case 3-4. It was a very humbling defeat, and I believe it has encouraged me to better understand both sides of an argument no matter how compelling each may be. At West Virginia YG, I found myself a member of the escort committee. For the freshman I was, this was a dream come true. I was escorting the very people that I had learned about from school and on the news. The newfound confidence I acquired from my role as an escort had me on my toes. The entire weekend, I was ready to pounce at any and every opportunity to come my way. When in need of a volunteer Senate Chaplain, I found myself on my feet before I could even realize what I was doing. That YG, I was the stand-in Chaplain, and I figured I might as well apply for the same role the following year—bringing us to the present YG where I am serving as your Senate Chaplain.
2. I am known for my public speaking, friendliness, reliability, and integrity. I believe that, although these qualities plus my critical thinking establishes the basis of my decisions, my ability to understand my peers and advocate of their behalf is ultimately why I meet the qualifications of this office.
3. To sum up my leadership style in one word: adaptive. Regardless of the obstacle, my intuition and innovation persevere. In a quiet room, I can spark conversation, and in a room that is off-topic, I can redirect it. Often approached with the scenario of being in a room with the best leaders in the region, my leadership style shifts to a buffer. I encourage my peers to watch myself and other leaders in hopes that they pick up on some of our tactics. The best leaders tend to influence the minds and strategies of others; I strive to do just that. By allowing those I lead to solidify their own personal leadership styles, success for all delegates is on the horizon.
4. Each of my hobbies must meet two mere requirements: what experience can I gain, and how much enjoyment will it bring me? For example, I have played the viola (an instrument quite like the violin) for six years and began to learn tuba January of this year. Though I have no intention of having a music-involving career, I am frequently

surrounded by musical opportunities. Each orchestra I rehearse for, each tricky rhythm, or each awkward key signature teaches me persistence. When I attend a gig and sightread the music, I am taught to stay alert to maximize the performance quality. In short, music gives me something to look forward to daily and overwhelms me with useful experience for any future career. Continuously, I play soccer and tennis and am treasurer of John Marshall YLA.

5. A fair share of my time is spent volunteering. For three years, I have volunteered at the Oglebay Good Zoo, occasionally assisting docents but typically providing guests with a good time. Whether it was introducing families to the goats, giving a history of our lemurs, or holding a skink for a child to pet, I enjoyed engaging with the public in a learning environment. Similarly, throughout the winter this year, I have assisted at the wrestling and basketball game concession stands. The proceeds benefit both YLA and the junior class. At the concession stand, I quickly memorized the prices of each item and consistently served customers with speed and a smile. I found myself preferring to spend my free time at the sporting events and speaking to people from our home team and those who came to oppose us. My time spent at both the zoo and the concession stand brought me insight into the community that I aspire to familiarize myself with.
6. The selective orchestra at John Marshall High School, known as Chamber Orchestra, play gigs around the surrounding region. A few days before Christmas, we played recognizable jolly tunes in the open space of the Ohio Valley Mall. We set out chairs for those that wanted to stick around, but we also set up in a space ideal for catching those that were simply walking by with the net of Christmas spirit. After playing for an hour, we began to pack up and dissipate. My friend and I waited around with our strings teacher to pack up stands when we were approached by the parent of a fellow student. She told us how a man sitting beside her praised our playing. Later, when our performance was posted on our school's Facebook, the man added a comment in his own words. He told the world how, when some of his wife's family and himself stopped at the mall before travelling the rest of the way to Pittsburg to see the Trans-Siberian Orchestra, he stumbled upon our playing. For 20-30 minutes, he listened to us play the "purest" Christmas music he had heard in a long time. At the end of the comment, he thanked us and wished us a Merry Christmas. Until his comment, I was completely unaware of the impact our local live music could have on the community. This encounter inspired me to give more of my time and energy to my community, and it truly showed me just how meaningful a service experience can be.

Candidate for Senate Clerk:

Name: Cole Fogus

Office Seeking: Senate Clerk

Delegation: James Monroe Leadership Alliance

School: James Monroe High School

Grade: Tenth (10th)



Questions and Answers:

1. Q: Past Youth in Government participation (years and position)

A: When I was in the eighth grade I attended the Youth in Government Seminar in Charleston in 2022 through the WV History Bowl program. The following year, my freshman year of high school, I joined my school's YLA program and attended the 2023 WV Youth in Government as a Senator in the WV Student Legislature. I had a bill written, but it unfortunately failed in committee. That year I was freshman class president through the Youth Government program. My sophomore year, this year, I am attending the 2024 WV Youth in Government as a Senator in the WV Student Legislature with a written bill that I am hoping will pass. This year I was also granted the position of Chaplain of my school's YLA program.

2. Q: Qualifications for the office - what do you bring to the office?

A: My qualifications for the position include my intellect in academics, my strong leadership skills, ability to fluently read and write, experience with leadership as well as my ability to successfully balance a part time job along with my academics and extracurricular activities, and my ability to speak well in public.

3. Q: Style of Leadership and how it will help other delegates succeed

A: I believe that my style of leadership cannot be defined by just one style. I lead assertively, honor seniority, and think that true democracy by delegated officials is the best course of action in government. My style of leadership will help other delegates succeed by me being willing and looking to help other delegates when they

need it. I will value every individual's opinion and will not condemn someone for their beliefs.

4. Q: School interests and activities

A: My school interests include a passion for English as well as a love to read books. I also share the same passion for elementary education and counseling. My school activities include YLA, concert band in the winter and spring, and marching band in the summer and fall.

5. Q: Community interests and activities

A: Community interests include general public service and some interest in my county's historical society. Community activities include being in most of the parades in my area through my school's marching band.

6. Q: An especially meaningful service experience

A: Every year near Christmas and Thanksgiving the entire band at my school writes Christmas cards and we go play Christmas music at the nursing home in my community. I take great pride in that because I know that the people in those homes are sometimes lonely, especially around the holidays. My great grandparents and great aunt have been in those situations and loved when anything like that happened.



2025 Officer Nomination Form - WV Youth in Government
Each Nominee Completes and Submits this form by 6:00 pm on Fri. April 26, 2024, at WV YG to the Bill Coordinator

Nominee Name _____ Office Seeking _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____
Zip _____ Cell Phone _____ Home Phone _____
Email _____
Delegation _____ School _____

Answer these questions (Attach additional sheet)

- 1. Past Youth in Government participation (years and position);
- 2. Qualifications for the office - what do you bring to the office?
- 3. Style of Leadership and how it will help other delegates succeed;
- 4. School interests and activities;
- 5. Community interests and activities;
- 6. An especially meaningful service experience.

It is YLA policy that an officer who does not participate in the Leadership Summit at Horseshoe in June will be removed from office since they are not there to perform their duties. The newly-appointed officer would then complete the term of office through the April YG Conference.

I attest that this information is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and that if elected I will carry out my responsibilities as outlined in the manual.

I have spoken with my parents about the responsibilities, time, commitments, and that if elected my first responsibility is participation in the June 16 - 22, 2024 Leadership Summit at Horseshoe. My parents understand and support me and the responsibilities of office.

Signature _____ Date _____
Student Candidate

This delegate has the qualifications for this office and has my support.

Signature _____ Date _____

Advisor/Delegation Leader



Application for 2025 WV YLA Youth in Government
Governor's Cabinet
Submit no later than May 5, 2024

Applicant's Name: _____ Delegation: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip _____ Cell Phone _____ Home Phone _____

Email _____

Year of Graduation _____

My previous Youth in Government Participation (years and position) include:

Explain how your leadership style, experience, commitment, time, and ideas for and about Youth in Government qualify you for this position. Attach an additional sheet with your answers as needed.

If appointed to the Cabinet by the Youth Governor, I will carry out my responsibilities as outlined above.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

I support this application and understand the responsibilities expected of a Cabinet member.

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Advisor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Return application to WV Youth in Government, Youth Leadership Association, 522 Sandhill Road, Point Pleasant, WV 25550 304-675-5899



Application for 2025 WV YLA Youth in Government Associate Justice

Submit no later than May 5, 2024

Applicant's Name: _____ Delegation: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip _____ Cell Phone _____ Home Phone _____

Email _____

Year of Graduation _____

My previous Youth in Government Participation (years and position) include:

Explain how your leadership style, experience, commitment, time, and ideas for and about Youth in Government qualify you for this position. Attach an additional sheet with your answers as needed.

If appointed to the Cabinet by the Youth Governor, I will carry out my responsibilities as outlined above.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

I support this application and understand the responsibilities expected of a Cabinet member.

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Advisor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

**Return application to WV Youth in Government
522 Sandhill Road Point Pleasant, WV 25550
304-675-5899**



2025 WV YLA Youth in Government
Committee Chair or Vice Chair Application
Submit no later than May 5, 2024

Please Type or Print

Delegation Name _____

Name _____
First Middle Last Email Address

Address _____ County _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Cell Phone _____ Home Phone _____ Grad. Yr. _____

Email _____

My previous Youth in Government Participation (years and position) include: _____

I am qualified to be a Committee Chair because: _____

I will help the Committee be a successful experience to all members and those who appear before the
Committee by: _____

If selected I will make every effort to participate in the June Leadership Summit at Horseshoe and the
Fall Conference. I will participate in the Bill Rating/Training in Charleston in February.

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Advisor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

On other side, this application, the Delegation explains why they do or do not support this application for
Committee leadership. The explanation is to be signed by your Advisor.

Return application to West Virginia Youth in Government, Youth Leadership Association,
522 Sandhill Road Point Pleasant, WV 25550
304-675-5899



2025 WV YLA Youth in Government
Application for Press Editor Submit
no later than May 5, 2024

Delegation Name _____

Name _____
First Middle Last Email Address

Address _____ County _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Cell Phone _____ Home Phone _____ Grad. Yr. _____

Previous Youth in Government Experience (list years and position): _____

Explain how your leadership style, experience, commitment, time, and ideas for and about the YG Press qualify you for this position. Include any experience you have in writing and with a newsletter or other publication. Attach an additional sheet with your answers as needed.

If appointed Press Editor, I will carry out my responsibilities as outlined above.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

I support this application and understand the responsibilities expected of a Press Editor.

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Advisor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Return application to WV Youth in Government, Youth Leadership Association,
522 Sandhill Road Point Pleasant, WV 25550 phone: 304-675-5899

ENTREPRENEURSHIP SUMMIT

at CAMP HORSESHOE

June 9-15, 2024



Entrepreneurship Leadership Service Philanthropy Character



- **Meet real-life entrepreneurs**
- **Learn the secrets of success in business**
- **Team-building leadership adventures**
- **Learn from a panel of entrepreneurship experts**
- **Explore the outdoors**
- **Best food of your life!**
- **Connect with teens from across the state**
- **Get ideas to help your community**

Who is Eligible?

ANY rising 9th—12th grade students who want to learn, participate and build their futures are eligible.

Scholarships

Students, parents, or local sponsors may pay the total fee or a student may apply for a scholarship provided by business, industry, civic groups, foundations, individuals, and others.

Getting Down to Business!

Learn by doing with other teens, college age counselors, business people, entrepreneurs, and others engaging in the principles of business and entrepreneurship.

Leadership

Practice skills of organization to get things done, communication, teamwork, and how to help groups succeed through effective governance.

Friendship!

You'll make **friends for a lifetime** with people who care, listen, and encourage you.

Fun!

Be ready for days full of great times in active learning sessions with plenty of time for **recreation, sports, music, the great outdoors, campfires, Variety Show, swimming, and much more!**

Service

You'll experience the value of doing good things for others, how to improve your school and community, and basically how to build a better world.

Arrival/Departure

Sunday 2 pm to Saturday 9 am. Only register if you can and will attend for the **total time**.

To Register

Register online at:
Ylaleads.org

or mail registration form to:

Entrepreneurship Summit
Horseshoe Leadership Center
3309 Horseshoe Run Road
Parsons, WV 26287

Dare to Make a Difference—

Learn the basics of entrepreneurship by creating your own business from the ground up with a team of peers!

We'll learn the basics of starting a business, discover an entrepreneurial mindset, build community, make connections with teens from across the state, and learn how to make a difference for good at home, school, and beyond.

Invest one week at Horseshoe and you'll gain skills, friendships, and memories to last a lifetime.



Teens tell their friends why they should attend Entrepreneurship Summit



"I was sponsored by my local service club to attend camp. I am thankful to have this opportunity to connect with so many West Virginia Entrepreneur's and peer entrepreneur's. This was a great experience.

—A Happy Camper

"This was my first time at a summer camp. I had so much fun. I made so many new friends and had so many new experiences. I am not typically an outgoing person, but I got really out of my comfort zone this week. I also learned many things about entrepreneurship. We did a simulation marketplace where we had to build a business from the ground up. I really enjoyed it. We also went on a field trip and learned many things from local entrepreneurs." - Lelia Brock, Williamson, WV, Mingo Central High School

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Marketplace Simulation with business professionals
- Field trip touring industries and small businesses in historic Davis and Thomas, WV
- The Incredible Journey
- Variety Show
- Campfires
- Home-cooked meals
- Cabin living
- Swimming
- Hikes
- Hands-on workshops
- Outdoor Challenge Course
- Nature exploration
- Tour Blackwater Falls State Park
- Create a business idea and redesign a community
- Service projects
- Introduction to Youth in Government, Model United Nations, and other YLA programs
- Dancing
- Sports
- Music
- Special Interest Time
- Fun, Friends, Learning!



West Virginia DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



47th Annual
Teen Entrepreneurship Summit
Horseshoe Leadership Center
June 9-15, 2024

To be completed by Student

Name, Home Phone, County, Address, City, State, Zip, Age, Date of Birth, Male, Female, Grade in Fall, Camper E-mail, Campers Cell Phone, School in Fall, Parent 1 Name, Parent 2 Name, Parent 1 Cell Phone & E-mail, Parents 2 Cell Phone & E-mail, Place of employment, Telephone (for emergency), Name & E-Mail Address of Local Newspaper

Affirmative Action Survey: Funding agencies require periodic report on the sex, ethnicity, and disability status of the applicants. This data is for analysis and affirmation action only. Submission of this information is voluntary. Check all that apply:
___ American Indian/Alaska Native ___ Asian ___ Black or African American
___ Hispanic or Latino ___ White ___ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

1. Fee Per Student: \$320 when paid by May 15 \$365 when paid After May 15

Note: Each session is limited to no more than eighty (80) male and eighty (80) female. Register early to secure a place.

(Teen Entrepreneurship Summit has scholarships available, WV student pays just \$75, and has section 4 completed.)

Payment: ___ Check enclosed* ___ Master Card ___ Discover ___ VISA Amount Paid \$
Card # Exp. Date
Card Holder Signature Date

* make check payable to "YLA". All payments must be received at the Horseshoe office on or before May 15th to receive the discount, this includes those filling electronically.

2. If part or all of your fee is paid to Horseshoe by a local sponsor, please list them here:

Name of Service Club, or other group
Address City State Zip
Contact Person for this group Phone
Amount paid to Horseshoe \$

(complete other side)

Horseshoe Is For Teens Who Are

- Interested in learning and developing social, civic, leadership, service, entrepreneurial skills;
- Positive in meeting and working with others, participating, helping others and groups succeed;
- Doers – who do their part to keep a place and activities clean, safe and positive for others;
- Ready to live away from home with more than 100 teens, to step out of their daily routine into a new world of activities and experiences;
- Committed to building real relationships by "unplugging" from the virtual world to meet face- to-face with other teens and adults without the distractions of the electronic world (cell phones, internet, television, etc.).
- Able to be a key part of **the week's** success in the lives of others and to take **what's** learned home to make their homes, schools, organizations and communities better places for all.

3. Agreements

I attest that if my application to attend is accepted, I will attend the total Summit beginning Sunday afternoon and ending after breakfast on Saturday. I will not ask to come later or leave early. I will not take the place of a person who can attend the whole week so I can be accommodated for only part of the week. YES NO

X _____
Applicant Signature Date

I support my son/daughter's application and participation in this program at Horseshoe. I certify they are free of habits or attitudes that would make them a negative participant and that my child is amenable to positive group life in a camp setting. I authorize Horseshoe (Ohio-West Virginia Youth Leadership Association) to have and use the name, photographs, slides, digital images, or video tape of the person named on this application as may be needed for its records or public relations programs including its web site and news releases. YES NO

X _____
Parent/Guardian Signature Date

4. Reference for Financial Aid

Students seeking financial aid from Horseshoe, please have the School Principal or Designated School Official sign this reference.

This student has shown interest in this program and is capable of positively participating in a week-long residential program. I support their application without any reservation.

X _____
Principal/Official Signature School Date

5. Send completed application to:

**Teen Entrepreneurship Summit
Horseshoe Leadership Center
3309 Horseshoe Run Road
Parsons, WV 26287-9029
Phone - 304-478-2481
Fax - 304-478-4446**

To make Horseshoe affordable to as many as possible, Horseshoe fees are about one-half of our actual costs. The total fee of \$365 is reduced to \$320 for those who pay the total amount by May 15. Refunds: \$75 of the fee reserves a place and is for administrative/processing expenses. IT IS NOT REFUNDABLE OR TRANSFERABLE. The balance of the fee may be refunded if Horseshoe is notified in writing two weeks prior to the camp week.



LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

at CAMP HORSESHOE

June 16-22, 2024



Character · Leadership · Service · Entrepreneurship · Philanthropy

JOIN US THIS
SUMMER AT
CAMP HORSESHOE
FOR AN
UNFORGETTABLE
WEEK!



- ◆ **Brainstorm and network with youth from across Ohio and West Virginia**
- ◆ **Practice skills for Youth in Government and Model United Nations**
 - ◆ **Strengthen connections and friendships**
 - ◆ **Team-building leadership adventures**
 - ◆ **Explore the great outdoors**
 - ◆ **Best food of your life!**
- ◆ **Get ideas to help your community, school, and local YLA chapter**

Prepare for Success —

Gather with youth leadership officers, interested teens, and other service-minded people to make a real difference for good. **Discover your potential** by expanding your mind and developing skills for leadership success. Plus, learn how to lead your student groups with excellence. **Invest one week** at Horseshoe and you'll gain skills, friendships, adventures, and memories to last a lifetime.



Who is Eligible?

ANY rising 9th– 12th grade students who want to learn, participate and build their futures are eligible.

Scholarships

Students, parents, community organizations, or local sponsors may pay the total fee OR individual YLA chapters can organize fundraising events to help their members participate.

Leadership

Practice skills of organization to get things done, communication, teamwork, and how to help groups succeed through effective governance.

Friendship!

You'll make **friends for a lifetime** with people who care, listen, and encourage you.

Fun!

Be ready for days full of great times in active learning sessions with plenty time for **recreation, sports, music, the great outdoors, campfires, Variety Show, creek exploring , and much more!**

Service

You'll experience the value of doing good things for others, how to improve your school and community, and basically how to build a better world.

Arrival/Departure

Sunday 2 pm to Saturday 9 am. Only register if you can and will attend for the **total time.**

To Register:

Register online at:

www.ylaleads.org

or mail registration form to:

Leadership Summit
Horseshoe Leadership
Center
3309 Horseshoe Run Road
Parsons, WV 26287-9029



Horseshoe Leadership Center
3309 Horseshoe Run Road
Parsons, WV 26287-9029
(304) 478-2481
www.ylaleads.org

Here's why teens say "You've got to get to Horseshoe!"

"Leadership camp is an amazing way to spend a week of your summer. You get to meet so many people who will become lifelong friends and you get to make so many memories you can cherish forever. You are pushed to try new things and you leave a better person than you came. You don't want to miss the opportunity!"

Lele Brock—Chapter President—Tug Valley Chamber of Commerce

Leadership camp was a positive experience that helped me make connections and make new friends with other YLA members from around the state and even Ohio! Nothing is better than looking up at the stars with your new friends at camp!

Lauren Rice—John Marshall High School



HIGHLIGHTS:

- Youth Officer planning sessions
- Keynote speakers
- Variety Show
- Campfires
- Home-cooked meals
- Cabin living
- Creek exploring
- Hikes
- Hands-on workshops
- Outdoor Challenge Course
- Nature exploration
- Service projects
- Team building adventures
- Youth in Government
- Model United Nations
- How to start a YLA chapter
- Community action ideas
- Dance
- Sports
- Music
- Goal Setting
- Camp Traditions
- Special Interest Time
- Fun, Friends, Learning!



West Virginia DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION



Teen Leadership Summit Horseshoe Leadership Center June 16 – 22, 2024

1. To be completed by Student

Name _____ Home Phone _____ County _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Age _____ Date of Birth _____ ___ Male ___ Female Grade in Fall _____

Camper E-mail _____ Cell Phone _____ School in Fall _____

Are you in a YLA group or HI-Y? ___Y ___N Group Name _____

Parent 1 Name _____ Parent 2 Name _____

Parent 1 Cell Phone & E-mail _____ Parent 2 Cell Phone & E-mail _____

Place of employment _____ Place of employment _____

Telephone (for emergency) _____ Telephone (for emergency) _____

Name & E-Mail Address of Local Newspaper (we try to recognize all participants with news releases)

Affirmative Action Survey: Funding agencies require periodic report on the sex, ethnicity, and disability status of the applicants. This data is for analysis and affirmation action only. **Submission of this information is voluntary.** Check all that apply:

___ American Indian/Alaska Native ___ Asian ___ Black or African American
 ___ Hispanic or Latino ___ White ___ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

2. Fee Per Student: **\$320 when paid by May 15** **\$365 when paid After May 15**

Note: Each session is limited to no more than eighty (80) male and eighty (80) female. Register early to secure a place.

Payment: ___*Check enclosed ___Master Card ___Discover ___VISA Amount Paid \$ _____

* make check payable to OH-WV YLA. All payments must be received at the Horseshoe office on or before May 15th to receive the discount, this includes those filling electronically.

Now charging 3% convenience fee for all credit card transactions starting January 1st 2023.

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Card Holder Signature _____ Date _____

3. If part or all of your fee is paid to Horseshoe by a local sponsor, please list them here:

Name of Service Club, or other group _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Contact Person for this group _____ Phone _____

Amount paid to Horseshoe \$ _____.

(Please complete the other side of this form.)

Horseshoe Is For Teens Who Are

- Interested in learning and developing social, civic, leadership, service, entrepreneurial skills;
- Positive in meeting and working with others, participating, helping others and groups succeed;
- Doers – who do their part to keep a place and activities clean, safe and positive for others;
- Ready to live away from home with more than 100 teens, to step out of their daily routine into a new world of activities and experiences;
- Committed to building real relationships by "unplugging" from the virtual world to meet face- to-face with other teens and adults without the distractions of the electronic world (cell phones, internet, television, etc.).
- Able to be a key part of **the week's** success in the lives of others and to take **what's** learned home to make their homes, schools, organizations and communities better places for all.

4. Agreements

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Applicant Signature

Date

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Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

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3309 Horseshoe Run Road
Parsons, WV 26287-9029
Phone (304) 478-2481**

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Horseshoe Leadership Center, a partner with the Monongahela National Forest and USDA, is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

SPONSORS

Platinum Sponsors:

SMART529

Jumpstart Educational Savings Plan

Silver Sponsors:

DiPiero, Simmons, McGinley & Bastress, PLLC

Dutch Miller Auto Group

ICL-IP Americas

George Manahan

WV Business & Industry Council

Bronze Sponsors:

Bowles Rice

Anita Casey

Ellen Goodwin

David King

Law Office of Philip A. Reale, PLLC

ROCKWOOL

David & Pamela Runkle

WV Manufacturing Association