



2015 Weekly Legislative E-Briefing

WEST VIRGINIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

February 27, 2015
45th Day of the 60-Day
Legislative Session

Senate Moves Charter School Bill to Calendar for 5:00 p.m. Reconvening

After a hectic week of committee and Senate Floor parliamentary jousting, the Senate today deferred action on the charter schools bill until the Senate reconvenes this afternoon at 5:00 p.m. [Senate Bill 14](#) is on third reading (passage stage) with the right to amend. The bill will allow for public charter schools in West Virginia. Charter schools will allow public school students to attend public schools with less red tape than traditional schools. Currently, 42 states and the District of Columbia allow charter schools.



UPCOMING LEGISLATIVE DEADLINES

Sunday, March 1

Last day that a bill can be reported out of its House of origin. This deadline ensures there is enough time left in the session for bills to have "three full days" for readings in each House.

Wednesday, March

4

Last day to consider bills on third reading (passage stage) in House of origin (This rule does not include the Budget Bill or supplemental appropriations).

Saturday, March 14 at Midnight

The regular session adjourns.

Non-Partisan Judicial Election Bill Goes to the Governor

Passed by the Senate 33-1 and the House of Delegates 89-7, [HB 2010](#) changes the election of WV Supreme Court Justices, Circuit Court Judges, Family Court Judges and Magistrates to a non-partisan basis. Currently, the Mountain State is only one of seven states that still elects judges on a partisan ballot. The Chamber has strongly advocated for this change to remove partisan politics from the state's judiciary.



"Open & Obvious" Bill Passed, Sent to the Chief Executive for Signature

Earlier this week, the Legislature approved [Senate Bill 13](#), which reinstates the legal doctrine for suing a property owner when someone is injured by an obvious risk that was reasonably apparent, or was know to the person injured.

The bill is a part of the Chamber's comprehensive legal reform legislative program.



TUESDAY LAST 2015 LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

"Bold Education Reform in 2015"

Tuesday, March 3
7:45 a.m.
Charleston Marriott

"Bold Education Reform in 2015"

David Sypolt, Chair,
Senate Education
Committee

Amanda Pasdon,
Chair, House
Education Committee

BILLS TO WATCH

[TO REVIEW THE TEXT OF ANY BILL](#)
[CLICK THE BILL NUMBER](#)

STATE SENATE

[SB 3](#) --- Relating to real property possessor's liability for trespasser harm
Signed into law by the Governor 2/9

[SB 6](#) --- Relating to medical professional liability **Awaiting Governor's signature**

[SB 12](#) --- Relating to payment of separated employee's outstanding wages
Passed Senate 1/23; To House Industry & Labor Committee

[SB 13](#) --- Reinstating open and obvious doctrine for premises liability **Awaiting Governor's signature**

[SB 14](#)--- Creating Public Charter Schools Act **The bill was moved to the bottom of the Senate's calendar 2/27 and may be taken up later this afternoon.**

[SB 37](#) --- Relating to arbitration. **Passed Senate 34-0 on 2/10 and is in House Judiciary Committee**

[SB 38](#) --- Relating to apportionment of damages in tortious conduct actions

[SB 101](#) --- Limiting punitive damages awarded in personal injury or wrongful death actions

[SB 104](#) --- Increasing threshold of defendant's liability to qualify for several liability in tortious actions

[SB 129](#)--- Establishing an Intermediate Court of Appeals

[SB 134](#) --- Creating Civil Reform Act of 2015

[SB 306](#) --- Establishing an Intermediate Court of Appeals

[SB 307](#) --- Creating Paycheck Protection Act

[SB 308](#)--- Changing minimum interest rate paid on judgments or decrees

[SB 318](#) --- Relating to payment of wages by employers **Passed Senate 2/5; To House Judiciary Committee**

[SB 321](#) --- Creating Paycheck Protection Act

[SB 337](#) --- Creating workplace freedom act (right-to-work)

[SB 344](#)--- Relating to limitations on front & back pay. **Passed Senate 2/20; To House Judiciary Committee**

[SB 361](#) --- Prevailing Wage Rate. **Passed Senate 23-11 2/12; on second reading (amendment stage) in the House 2/27**

[SB 421](#)--- Relating to punitive damages in civil actions. **Approved by the Senate: to House Judiciary Committee**

[SB 423](#) --- Amending the Above Ground Storage Tank Act **On third reading (passage stage) 2/28**

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

[HB 2001](#)--- Repealing Alternative & Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard(cap & trade) **Signed into law by the Governor 2/4**

[HB 2002](#) ---
Predicating actions for damages upon comparative fault **Awaiting Governor's signature**

[HB 2005](#)--- Relating to alternative programs for the education of teachers. **Passed House and is in Senate Education Committee**

[HB 2010](#)--- Requiring the elections of justices of the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals, circuit court judges, family court judges and magistrates be nonpartisan **Awaiting Governor's signature**

[HB 2011](#) --- The bill deals with the misuse of the current "deliberate intent" law by employees suffering significant injury or death in the workplace. **Passed House 2/10; in Senate Judiciary Committee.**

[HB 2091](#) --- False Claims Act

[HB 2162](#) - Relating to payment of employees separated from payroll before payday

TUESDAY
Last 2015 Legislative
Briefing Breakfast



Tuesday, March 3 7:45 a.m.
"Bold Education Reform in 2015"

David Sybolt, Chair, Senate Education Committee
Amanda Pasdon, Chair, House Education Committee

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