WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §25-5-5

§25-5-5. Prohibition of constructing or operating a correctional facility; exceptions.

(a) No person may operate a private prison facility or provide correctional services in this state without first obtaining the written approval of the secretary.

(b) No person may construct, modify, lease, or otherwise alter a private prison facility without first obtaining the written approval of the Regional Jail Authority.

(c) Nothing in this section shall impair the right of the state or its political subdivisions to operate a prison facility or provide correctional services.

(d) No private contractor may operate a correctional facility in this state for the confinement of maximum security inmates sentenced to a term of incarceration by a foreign court.