WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §29-1-1A

§29-1-1a. Transfer of powers and duties; existing contracts and obligations.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this article, the powers and duties of the West Virginia antiquities commission, the West Virginia arts and humanities council and the department of archives and history are hereby transferred to the Department of Tourism.

(b) All existing assets, equipment, contracts, and records of the Department of Arts, Culture, and History, the West Virginia antiquities commission, the West Virginia arts and humanities council, and the department of archives and history, or relating to the present science and culture center, shall be transferred to the Department of Tourism.

(c) Beginning on July 1, 2025, all employees of any section or commission listed in §29-1-1(b) of this code shall be exempt from the state grievance procedures as set forth in §6C-2-1 *et seq*. of this code and from the classified civil service system under §29-6-1 *et seq*. of this code except that:

(1) All employees of any section or commission listed in §29-1-1(b) of this code who are currently members of the classified civil service system shall retain their status as long as they remain in their current position, and all employees of any section or commission listed in §29-1-1(b) of this code who currently have recourse to the state grievance procedures will continue to have access to the state grievance procedures as long as they remain in their current position; and

(2) Any employee of any section or commission listed in §29-1-1(b) of this code that leaves his or her position and remains an employee within the Department of Tourism shall, at that time, be transferred to the classified-exempt service system as defined in §29-6-2(g) of this code and be exempted from the state grievance procedures as set forth in §6C-2-1 *et seq*. of this code.

(d) The secretary shall have the authority to designate certain employees' status under the classified civil service system and grievance procedures as may be deemed necessary to comply with federal regulation, or the requirements for receipt of federal funding or assistance.

(e) Nothing in this article shall prevent a person, at the secretary's discretion, from serving in multiple positions or professions within the sections or commissions listed in §29-1-1(b) of this code.

(f) Subsection (c) of this section shall not apply to any position appointed by the Governor.

(g) Nothing in this section shall exempt any section or commission listed in §29-1-1(b) of this code from the provisions of this code prohibiting nepotism, favoritism, discrimination, or

WV Legislature

unethical practices related to the promotion, transfer, layoff, removal, discipline, and compensation of state employees.

WV Legislature