

WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §29-36-1

§29-36-1. Findings.

Findings—the Legislature finds that:

Over 15 percent of West Virginia’s population is of Irish descent, which, according to the Irish diplomat Barbara Jones, represents a higher figure than that in Boston or New York City;

The ties that bind Ireland to West Virginia are deep and lasting, reflected on West Virginia’s map from Ireland to Irish Mountain, from Tyrone to Tralee; and

Irish heritage has been the fortunate lot of many great West Virginians, such as philanthropist Bernard P. McDonough, the inventor Michael Owens, and US Senator John Kenna;

Ireland and West Virginia are attempting to reinvent their economies for success in the twenty-first century; and

West Virginians have both historic and practical reasons to desire the building of firmer commercial links with Ireland.