

# WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 1957

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## ENROLLED

SENATE BILL NO. 11

(By Mr. Powers and Taylor)

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PASSED Feb 5 1957

In Effect 90 days from Passage



Filed in the Office of the Secretary of State  
of West Virginia FEB 9 - 1957  
D. BERT GIBBEN

**ENROLLED**

**Senate Bill No. 11**

(By Mr. Bowers and Mr. Taylor)

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[Passed February 5, 1957; in effect ninety days from passage.]

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AN ACT to amend and reenact section sixteen, article eleven, chapter nine of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to the lists and records of the department of public assistance as public records, and to the misuse of such lists and records.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

That section sixteen, article eleven, chapter nine of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

Section 16. *Public Assistance Lists and Records.*—The  
2 department of public assistance shall make available for  
3 public inspection by the tenth of each month a separate

4 alphabetical list of the names and addresses of all per-  
5 sons receiving any form of relief assistance during the  
6 preceding month together with the amounts of such  
7 relief assistance. This information shall be delivered to  
8 the clerk of each county court in the state who shall  
9 immediately file the same in his office with respect to per-  
10 sons receiving such assistance as residents of that county.  
11 Such information shall be retained in the files of said  
12 clerks of the county courts for a period of two years from  
13 the date of receipt thereof. All information other than  
14 names, addresses and amounts of such relief assistance  
15 shall be considered as confidential.

16 It shall be unlawful, for commercial or political purposes  
17 of any nature, for any person or persons, body, associa-  
18 tion, firm, corporation or other agency to solicit, disclose,  
19 receive, make use of, or to authorize, knowingly permit,  
20 participate in, or acquiesce in the use of, any lists of  
21 names of, or any information concerning, persons applying  
22 for or receiving relief assistance, directly or indirectly  
23 derived from the records, papers, files, or communica-  
24 tions of the department of public assistance or acquired

25 in the course of performance of official duties. The viola-  
26 tion of this provision is a misdemeanor, punishable upon  
27 conviction, by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars  
28 or imprisonment of not more than six months, or both.

29 For the protection of applicants and recipients of relief  
30 assistance, the department of public assistance shall be  
31 required to establish reasonable rules and regulations  
32 governing the custody, use, and preservation of the  
33 records, papers, files and communications of the depart-  
34 ment.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

*Ephraim Court*  
Chairman Senate Committee

*Thomas O. Welch*  
Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

Takes effect 90 days From passage.

*Howard K. Myers*  
Clerk of the Senate

*C. A. Blankenship*  
Clerk of the House of Delegates

*Ralph J. Spear*  
President of the Senate

*W. E. Thompson*  
Speaker House of Delegates

The within approved this the 8th  
day of February, 1957.

*Leif H. Luden*  
Governor



Filed in the Office of the Secretary of State  
of West Virginia

FEB 9 - 1957

D. PITT O'BRIEN  
SECRETARY OF STATE