WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 1982

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ENROLLED

HOUSE BILL No. 2035

(By Mr. Knight & Mr. Stephens)

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Passed March 12, 1982

In Effect Ninety Days from Passage
AN ACT to amend chapter sixteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, by adding thereto a new article, designated article five-g, relating to requiring the proceedings of the governing bodies of nonprofit and local governmental hospitals to be open to the public.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That chapter sixteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new article, designated article five-g, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 5G. OPEN HOSPITAL PROCEEDINGS:

§16-5G-1. Declaration of legislative policy.

1 The Legislature hereby finds and declares that hospitals owned or operated by nonprofit corporations, nonprofit associations or local governmental units are relied on by the citizens of this state for services essential to their health and well-being. The Legislature further finds and declares that public funds from various sources and by various means contribute significantly to the revenues and operations of such institutions. Therefore, it is in the best interest of the people of this state for all proceedings of the boards of directors or other governing bodies of such hospitals to be conducted in an open and public manner so that the people can remain informed of the decisions and decision making processes af-
flecting the health services on which they so vitally depend and
which they help support through tax exemptions, public fund-
ing and other means.

§16-5G-2. Open proceedings.

Every board of directors or other governing body of any
hospital owned or operated by a nonprofit corporation, non-
profit association or local governmental unit shall be open to
the public in the same manner and to the same extent as re-
quired of public bodies in article nine-a, chapter six of this
code.
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

R. P. Bayle
Chairman Senate Committee

Tony E. Whitten
Chairman House Committee

Originating in the House.

Takes effect ninety days from passage.

Joseph C. Hicks
Clerk of the Senate

The within _______ approved _______ this the _______ day of _______
Mand _______, 1982.

[- Signatures -]

Governor