WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 1983

ENROLLED
Committee Substitute for
SENATE BILL NO. 172

(By Mr. Nelson, et al.)

PASSED March 12, 1983
In Effect from Passage
AN ACT to amend chapter eighteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, by adding thereto a new article, designated article twenty-six-a, relating to the establishment and operation by the board of regents of a state autism training center; purpose; definitions; powers and duties of board of regents; rules and regulations; advisory board; trainee team fees and expenses.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

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

ARTICLE 26A. STATE AUTISM TRAINING CENTER.

§18-26A-1. Purpose.

1 The purpose of the Legislature in the enactment of this article is to establish and develop an autism training center in the state of West Virginia with a highly skilled, interdisciplinary, appropriately experienced staff which will train teachers, parents, guardians, and others important to the autistic person's education and training.
1 For the purpose of this article:
2 "Board" means the West Virginia board of regents; and
3 "Center" means the autism training center.

1 The West Virginia board of regents is authorized to
2 operate a state autism training center, including either
3 the acquisition by purchase, lease, gift or otherwise, of
4 necessary lands, and the construction of necessary build-
5 ings; the expansion, remodeling, altering or equipping of
6 necessary buildings; or the making of contracts by the
7 board of regents with any state, county or municipal
8 agency, or nonprofit institution, providing for the equip-
9 ment, compensation of personnel, operation and mainte-
10 nance of any facility of such agency or institution
11 utilized for the purposes of this article. The board may
12 make and enter into all contracts and agreements neces-
13 sary and incidental to the performance of its powers and
14 duties under this section, and may cooperate with other
15 agencies of the state, county and federal governments.

§18-26A-4. Responsibilities of center.
1 This center is required to work with trainee teams
2 consisting of the autistic or autistic-like individual, a
3 parent or guardian and a teacher or related professional,
4 preferably one who is already involved in the autistic
5 person's education and training, who have been accepted
6 by the center. The training shall be specific to the autis-
7 tic individual and shall occur during an intensive three-
8 week training course. The trainee team shall live at a
9 special residence with trained house parents and go daily
10 to the center. After the team has returned to its commu-
11 nity, the center shall offer intensive follow-up services
12 including toll-free telephone and consultation services.
13 The center shall offer appropriate educational programs
14 for autistic persons and appropriate training for profes-
15 sional personnel and parents.
1 The board shall make and adopt rules, regulations and
2 standards for the establishment, operation, maintenance
3 and government control of the center established pur-
4 suant to this article including such rules, regulations and
5 standards as may be necessary for cooperation under and
6 compliance with any existing or future federal statutes
7 pertaining to grants-in-aid for autistic training or facili-
8 ties and such other rules and regulations as may be
9 necessary to effectuate the purposes of this article.

§18-26A-6. Advisory board.
1 The board of regents shall appoint a board of West
2 Virginia citizens to advise the center director on matters
3 of policy. The board shall be composed of fifty percent
4 parents or guardians of persons eligible for the center’s
5 program; forty percent persons from professional fields
6 related to autism, such as special education, psychology,
7 hearing and speech, neurology and pediatrics; and ten
8 percent knowledgeable lay citizens such as legislators or
9 other lay community leaders. The director of the center
10 shall be a voting member of the advisory board.

§18-26A-7. Trainee team; expense.
1 A trainee team eligible to attend the center consists of
2 a diagnosed autistic or autistic-like individual, a profes-
3 sional chosen by the primary local service agency and the
4 individual’s parent or guardian.
5 The center shall charge agencies sending trainee teams
6 such fees as are established by the board of regents.
7 For the first five years of the existence of the center,
8 the center shall provide for all expenses in excess of fees
9 charged sending agencies for each trainee team including
10 child care for other children of attending parents, guard-
11 ians, teachers or other professionals not regularly em-
12 ployed at the center. After this five-year development
13 period, expenses of the trainee team will be charged to
14 the sending agencies.
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that
the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled:

[Signatures]
Chairman Senate Committee
Donald Anello
Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

In effect from passage.

[Signature]
J. C. Hub
Clerk of the Senate

[Signature]
Donald L. Kepp
Clerk of the House of Delegates

[Signature]
Warren B. McGraw
President of the Senate

[Signature]
J. M. Lee
Speaker House of Delegates

The within is approved this the 27
day of March, 1983.

[Signature]
John F. Bellinger
Governor