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WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 1997



ENROLLED

HOUSE BILL No. 2727

(By Delegate Flanigan, Osborne,
Frederick and Staton)



Passed April 12, 1997

In Effect From Passage

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H. B. 2727

(BY DELEGATES FLANIGAN, OSBORNE,
FREDERICK AND STATON)

[Passed April 12, 1997; in effect from passage.]

AN ACT to establish the Mercer County Governmental Council to provide a forum for elected and appointed leaders of Mercer County to use in building consensus about issues facing the county, in order to present a unified voice to government at state and federal levels.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

MERCER COUNTY GOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL.

§1. Mercer County Governmental Council created.

1 There is hereby created the Mercer County
2 Governmental Council as a cooperative endeavor of the
3 various governmental units and officials of Mercer
4 County, West Virginia, and its municipalities.

§2. Purpose.

1 The purpose of the council created herein is to foster
2 and promote cooperation and understanding among the
3 various governing bodies and officials of Mercer County,
4 West Virginia and the Mercer County legislative
5 delegation. The desired effect of this organization is for
6 Mercer County to present a unified voice and vision to the
7 state and federal governments for the betterment of
8 Mercer County and to ensure that the citizens of Mercer
9 County are heard by their state and federal representatives

10 and receive a fair and equitable proportion of resources
11 available from these levels of government.

§3. Membership.

1 The Mercer County Governmental Council shall be
2 composed of three distinct groups of members: Full
3 members; affiliate members; and associate members.

4 The full members shall be the elected members of the
5 governing bodies of the municipalities located within
6 Mercer County, the members of the Mercer County
7 Commission, and those members of the state Senate and
8 the House of Delegates elected to represent Mercer
9 County, or a portion thereof, in the Legislature. The terms
10 of office for these members shall be coextensive with the
11 terms of their respective elected offices.

12 The affiliate members shall be those individuals
13 elected to the following Mercer County public offices:
14 Sheriff, county clerk, circuit clerk, assessor, prosecuting
15 attorney, circuit judge, and magistrate. The terms of office
16 of these members shall be coextensive with the terms of
17 their respective elected offices.

18 The associate members shall be those individuals who
19 are elected or appointed to the following offices or posi-
20 tions: Mercer County Economic Development Authority;
21 Bluefield city manager; Princeton city manager; Region I
22 Planning and Development Council; West Virginia Divi-
23 sion of Highways district office; Chambers of Commerce;
24 Mercer County Board of Education; Mercer County
25 Health Board; Bluestone Convention and Tourism Board;
26 Mercer County Emergency Services; and hospital admin-
27 istrators of hospitals located in Mercer County. The terms
28 of office of these members shall be coextensive with the
29 terms of their elected or appointed offices or positions.

§4. Officers.

1 The Mercer County Governmental Council shall, at its
2 first meeting in July, one thousand nineteen hundred nine-
3 ty-seven, elect from among its membership a president
4 and vice president, who shall serve in their respective ca-
5 pacities for terms of two years. The president shall ap-

6 point an individual to serve as secretary/treasurer, who
7 shall serve until a successor is appointed.

§5. Meetings.

1 The Mercer County Governmental Council shall hold
2 an annual meeting each year on a day in July, to be
3 chosen by a majority vote of the members. Thereafter, the
4 council shall conduct monthly meetings to discuss
5 problems of mutual concern and opportunities for
6 common good; to provide a forum for discourse and
7 discussion among the elected and appointed leaders of
8 Mercer County; and, where possible, to reach consensus
9 on issues of common concern so that Mercer County's
10 governmental leaders may be unified in their efforts to
11 improve the county.

12 Notice of all meetings shall be provided to members at
13 least one week in advance. The president, or in the
14 president's absence, the vice president, shall preside. All
15 meetings shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Order and
16 be open to the public, in accordance with the Open
17 Governmental Meetings Act. A simple majority of
18 members constitutes a quorum for conducting business.

§6. Voting.

1 The council as a whole may take up for consideration
2 any matter brought before it by any member but only full
3 members of the council are entitled to vote on a matter. A
4 simple majority of the full members present voting in the
5 affirmative shall be sufficient for the measure to carry.
6 However, no vote of the council may have a binding effect
7 upon any member in the performance of his or her duties
8 as an elected or appointed official and such votes of the
9 council shall be advisory only.

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

Way Schover
Chairman Senate Committee

Mike Santasia
Chairman House Committee

Originating in the House.

Takes effect from passage.

Carroll E. Selma
Clerk of the Senate

Burgess W. Bay
Clerk of the House of Delegates

Earl Ray Tomblin
President of the Senate

[Signature]
Speaker of the House of Delegates

The within *is approved* this the *6th*
day of *May*, 1997.

[Signature]
Governor

PRESENTED TO THE

GOVERNOR

Date 5/1/97

Time 3:47 pm