WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 1999

ENROLLED

House Bill No. 2691

(By Delegates Flanigan, Wills and Frederick)

Passed March 12, 1999

In Effect Ninety Days from Passage
AN ACT to amend and reenact sections two, three, four and six, chapter two hundred twenty-eight, acts of the Legislature, regular session, one thousand nine hundred ninety-seven; and to further amend said chapter by adding thereto a new section, designated section seven, all relating to the Mercer County Governmental Council; expanding its authority, and changing its composition.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That sections two, three, four and six, chapter two hundred twenty-eight, acts of the Legislature, regular session, one thousand nine hundred ninety-seven, be amended and reenacted; and that said chapter be further amended by adding thereto a new section, designated section seven, all to read as follows:

MERCER COUNTY GOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL.

§2. Purposes.

1. The purposes of the council are to:

2. (1) Foster and promote cooperation and understanding among the various governing bodies and officials of Mercer County, West Virginia, including the Mercer County legislative delegation. A desired effect is for Mercer County to present a
unified voice and vision to the state and federal governments
for the betterment of Mercer County and to ensure that the
citizens of Mercer County are heard by their state and federal
representatives and receive a fair and equitable proportion of
resources available from these levels of government; and

(2) Develop strategies and plans for supporting solutions to
problems and meeting needs of the county.

§3. Membership.

(a) The Mercer County Governmental Council is composed
of full members and associate members.

(b) The full members are the elected members of the
governing bodies of the municipalities located within Mercer
County, the members of the Mercer County Commission, and
those members of the state Senate and the House of Delegates
elected to represent Mercer County, or a portion thereof, in the
Legislature. The terms of office for these members are coextensive
with the terms of their respective elected offices.

(c) The associate members are:

(1) Those individuals elected to the following Mercer
County public offices: Sheriff, county clerk, circuit clerk,
assessor and prosecuting attorney. The terms of office of these
members are coextensive with the terms of their respective
elected offices; and

(2) Those individuals who are elected or appointed to the
following offices or positions: Mercer County Economic
Development Authority; Bluefield city manager; Princeton city
manager; Region I Planning and Development Council; West
Virginia Division of Highways district office; Chambers of
Commerce; Mercer County Board of Education; Mercer County
Health Board; Bluestone Convention and Tourism Board;
Mercer County Emergency Services; hospital administrators of
hospitals located in Mercer County and others who may be
appointed from time to time, at the council’s discretion. The
terms of office of these members shall be coextensive with the
terms of their elected or appointed offices or positions.
§ 4. Officers.

The Mercer County Governmental Council shall, at its meeting in July, one thousand nine hundred ninety-nine, elect from among its membership a president, vice president, treasurer and secretary, who serve in their respective capacities for terms of two years.


The council as a whole may take up for consideration any matter brought before it by any member but only full members of the council are entitled to vote on a matter. A simple majority of the full members present voting in the affirmative is sufficient for the measure to carry. However, no vote of the council may have a binding effect upon any member in the performance of his or her duties as an elected or appointed official. The votes of the council are advisory only, except when authorizing the expenditure of funds.


(a) The council is authorized to receive appropriations, gifts and grants from any source, including but not limited to, any municipality within the county and the county commission. It may establish an account with a local bank for deposit of funds received. The council may expend funds received in furtherance of the purposes stated in this act.

(b) The council may prepare and distribute informational materials to assist it in its activities.
That Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Chairman Senate Committee

Chairman House Committee

Originating in the House.

Takes effect ninety days from passage.

Clerk of the Senate

Clerk of the House of Delegates

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Delegates

The within ___ approved ___ this the ___ day of ___ April, 1999.

Governor