

HB 2996
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WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 1999



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FOR
House Bill No. 2996

(By Delegates Spencer and Mahan)



Passed March 11, 1999

In Effect Ninety Days from Passage

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H. B. 2996

(BY DELEGATES SPENCER AND MAHAN)

[Passed March 11, 1999; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact section five, article three, chapter four of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to providing access to information contained in the Legislature's computer system.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

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

ARTICLE 3. JOINT COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AND FINANCE.

§4-3-5. Computer subscriber system.

- 1 (a) The joint committee on government and finance is
- 2 authorized to provide information from portions of the Legisla-
- 3 ture's computer data to persons through the internet, or through
- 4 other means approved by the committee, for noncommercial
- 5 use, with or without charge. The committee may charge and
- 6 collect fees for providing or licensing portions of the data

7 maintained in the Legislature's computer databases to persons
8 requesting the data.

9 (b) The joint committee on government and finance shall,
10 prior to the twelfth day of January, two thousand, consider how
11 best to provide, through the internet or other means, free public-
12 access to appropriate information maintained in the Legisla-
13 ture's computer databases. The committee shall consider
14 providing free public access through the internet, or other
15 appropriate means, to bill status information, the text of
16 pending bills, the daily journals of the House of Delegates and
17 the Senate, the West Virginia Code, and any other information
18 determined appropriate by the committee, all as maintained by
19 the Legislature in its computer databases. In determining what
20 information to which to provide free access, the committee
21 shall consider how the access may affect the integrity, security
22 and functionality of the Legislature's computer system and its
23 primary use of supporting its legislative functions.

24 (c) No part of the information contained in the Legislature's
25 computer system databases in its magnetic or electronic form
26 is a public record as that term is defined in section two, article
27 one, chapter twenty-nine-b of this code. Notwithstanding any
28 provisions of section three, article one, chapter twenty-nine-b
29 of this code to the contrary, the Legislature may not be required
30 or compelled to allow access to all or a portion of its databases
31 for inspection and copying and may not be required to make
32 available copies of all or a portion of its databases on magnetic
33 or electronic media.

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



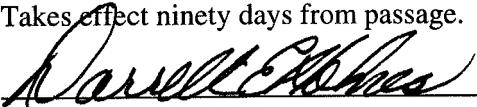
Chairman Senate Committee



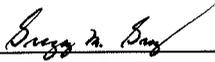
Chairman House Committee

Originating in the House.

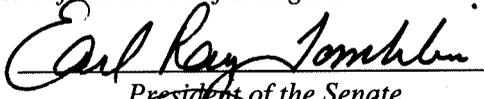
Takes effect ninety days from passage.



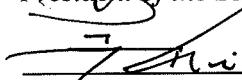
Clerk of the Senate



Clerk of the House of Delegates



President of the Senate



Speaker of the House of Delegates

The within approved this the 29th
day of March, 1999.



Governor

PRESENTED TO THE

GOVERNOR

Date

3/22/99

Time

10:24 am