WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION, 2000

ENROLLED

House Bill No. 4781
(By Delegates Staton, Amores, Wills, Givens, C. White, Linch and Faircloth)

Passed March 11, 2000
In Effect Ninety Days from Passage
ENROLLED
H. B. 4781

(BY DELEGATES STATON, AMORES, WILLS, GIVENS,
C. WHITE, LINCH AND FAIRCLOTH)

[Passed March 11, 2000; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact section four, article one, chapter six-a
of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-
one, as amended, relating to providing that the president of the
Senate shall be additionally designated the title of "lieutenant
governor" in acknowledgment of the president’s position as first
successor to the governor in the event the governor is unable to
discharge the duties of his or her office.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

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

ARTICLE 1. EXECUTIVE AND JUDICIAL SUCCESSION.

1 (a) In the event that the governor, for any of the reasons
2 specified in the constitution, is not able to exercise the powers
3 and discharge the duties of his or her office, or is unavailable,
4 then the president of the Senate shall act as governor, and if the
president of the Senate, for any of the reasons specified in the
constitution, is not able to exercise the powers and discharge
the duties of the office of governor, or is unavailable, then the
speaker of the House of Delegates shall act as governor, and if
the speaker of the House of Delegates, for any of the reasons
specified in the constitution, is not able to exercise and dis-
charge the duties of the office of governor, or is unavailable,
then the attorney general, the state auditor, and resident ex-
governors of this state, in inverse order of service, shall, in the
order named, if the preceding named officers be unavailable,
exercise the powers and discharge the duties of the office of
governor until a new governor is elected and qualified, or until
a preceding named officer becomes available.

(b) The Legislature recognizes that pursuant to the provi-
sions of subsection (a) of this section, the president of the
Senate is charged with the responsibility of first successor to
the governor in the event the governor is unable to exercise the
powers and discharge the duties of his or her office and in that
regard, the president of the Senate is functioning similarly to a
lieutenant governor. Therefore, the Legislature determines that
the president of the Senate shall be additionally designated the
title of “lieutenant governor” in acknowledgment of the
president’s responsibility as first successor to the governor.
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.

In 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 4th day of , 2000.

Governor