WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION, 2000

ENROLLED

House Bill No. 4782
(By Delegates Douglas, Butcher, Perdue, Marshall,
Flanigan, Stalnaker and Willison)

Passed March 11, 2000

In Effect from Passage
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H. B. 4782

(By Delegates Douglas, Butcher, Perdue, Marshall, Flanigan, Stalnaker and Willison)

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

AN ACT to amend and reenact section four, article one, chapter nineteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, authorizing the commissioner of agriculture to administer the state rural development council.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

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

ARTICLE 1. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

§19-1-4. Duties of commissioner.

1. The commissioner of agriculture shall perform the following duties:

2. (a) Devise means of advancing the agricultural interests of the state, and, in the performance of such duty, he or she shall have authority to call upon any state department, or officer of
the state or county, to cooperate in promoting the agricultural
interests of the state. It shall be the duty of any such depart-
ment, or officer, upon request of the commissioner to render the
assistance desired;

(b) Promote and encourage the organization of such
societies and associations as have for their object the improve-
ment and development of the state’s agricultural, horticultural
and kindred interests, especially in production, processing for
market and distribution;

c) Conduct cooperative work with the United States
department of agriculture in inspecting and determining the
grade and condition of farm produce at collecting centers,
receiving centers and shipping points;

d) Induce the investment of capital in, and immigration
into, this state by the dissemination of information relative to
the soil, climate, health, natural resources, market opportunities
and advantages of the state;

e) Investigate and report upon the kinds, conditions and
extent of the mineral products of the state and their value;

f) Take charge of the museum of the department of
agriculture, collect, preserve and exhibit therein specimens of
agricultural, horticultural and kindred products, products of the
forests, minerals, flora and fauna of the state;

g) Administer the state rural development council through
the marketing and development division established in section
three-a of this article, in accordance with the memorandum of
understanding between the United States department of
agriculture and the state concerning the president’s initiative on
rural development;

h) Publish and distribute from time to time such reports
and bulletins concerning agriculture, horticulture and kindred
subjects as may be of value to the farmers of the state, and, as
conditions may demand, publish a handbook giving the
resources of the several counties of the state, the varieties of
soil and products, both mineral and vegetable, and the adapt-
ability of the different sections of the state to the different
branches of agriculture, horticulture and kindred interests;

(i) Submit a biennial report to the governor and Legislature
containing such information as to the operations of the depart-
ment as may be helpful to the agricultural interests of the state,
together with an itemized statement of all receipts and disburse-
ments during the biennial period covered thereby, and giving
the name of every person employed during such period, the
time employed, and the amount paid each employee;

(j) Perform such other duties and exercise such other
powers as are provided in this chapter and by general law; and

(k) Propose rules, including regulatory standards, for
legislative approval in accordance with the provisions of article
three, chapter twenty-nine of this code for the purpose of
carrying out the requirements of this chapter.
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 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 31st
day of March, 2000

Governor
PRESENTED TO THE
GOVERNOR
Date, 3/27/07
Time, 3: 00