WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
EIGHTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
SECOND EXTRAORDINARY SESSION, 2014

ENROLLED

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

Senate Bill No. 2004

(BY SENATORS KESSLER (MR. PRESIDENT) AND M. HALL,
BY REQUEST OF THE EXECUTIVE)

[PASSED MAY 21, 2014; IN EFFECT FROM PASSAGE.]
Senate Bill No. 2004

(By Senators Kessler (Mr. President) and M. Hall, by request of the Executive)

[Passed May 21, 2014; in effect from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact §5B-2-12 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to the distribution of funds from the Tourism Promotion Fund; authorizing the transfer of up to $4,700,000 of moneys from the Tourism Promotion Fund to the Courtesy Patrol Fund; and Designating the Secretary of Commerce as the approving authority for the expenditure of certain funds to effectively promote and market the state’s parks, state forests, state recreation areas and wildlife recreational resources.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That §5B-2-12 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 2. WEST VIRGINIA DEVELOPMENT OFFICE.

§5B-2-12. Tourism Promotion Fund created; use of funds.
There is hereby continued in the State Treasury the special revenue fund known as the Tourism Promotion Fund created under prior enactment of section nine, article one of this chapter.

(a) The Legislature finds that a courtesy patrol program providing assistance to motorists on the state's highways is one of the most beneficial methods to introduce a tourist visiting the state to the state's hospitality and good will. For that reason, up to $4,700,000 of the moneys deposited in the fund each year shall be transferred to a special revenue account in the State Treasury known as the Courtesy Patrol Fund. Expenditures from the fund shall be used solely to fund the courtesy patrol program providing assistance to motorists on the state's highways. Amounts collected in the fund which are found, from time to time, to exceed funds needed for the purposes set forth in this subdivision may be transferred to other accounts or funds and redesignated for other purposes by appropriation of the Legislature.

(b) If there are funds remaining after the transfers required in subdivision (a) of this section, a minimum of five percent of the moneys deposited remaining in the fund each year shall be used solely for direct advertising for West Virginia travel and tourism: Provided, That no less than twenty percent of these funds be expended, with the approval of the Secretary of Commerce, to effectively promote and market the state's parks, state forests, state recreation areas and wildlife recreational resources. "Direct advertising" means advertising which is limited to television, radio, mailings, newspaper, magazines, the Internet and outdoor billboards or any combination thereof.

(c) The balance of the moneys deposited in the fund shall be used for direct advertising within the state's travel regions as defined by the commission. The funds shall be made
available to these districts beginning July 1, 1995, according to legislative rules authorized for promulgation by the Tourism Commission.

(d) All advertising expenditures over $25,000 from the Tourism Promotion Fund require prior approval by recorded vote of the commission. No member of the commission or of any committee created by the commission to evaluate applications for advertising or other grants may participate in the discussion of, or action upon, an application for or an award of any grant in which the member has a direct financial interest.
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Chairman Senate Committee

Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

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 bill is approved this 29th Day of May, 2014.

Governor