WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE 2022 REGULAR SESSION

ENROLLED

Senate Bill 591

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OFFICE OF WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE

By SENATOR TRUMP

[Passed March 09, 2022; in effect 90 days from passage]

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AN ACT to amend and reenact §3-10-5 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
to the process for filling vacancies in the state Legislature; clarifying the process for filling
a vacancy if the member was elected to a multi-county senatorial or delegate district; and
authorizing the county executive committee of single-county senatorial or delegate district
to fill vacancies.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 10. FILLING VACANCIES.

§3-10-5. Vacancies in state Legislature.

- (a) Any vacancy in the office of state senator or member of the House of Delegates shall be filled by appointment by the Governor, from a list of three legally qualified persons submitted by the party executive committee of the same political party with which the person holding the office immediately preceding the vacancy was affiliated at the time the vacancy occurred. The list of qualified persons to fill the vacancy shall be submitted to the Governor within 15 days after the vacancy occurs and the Governor shall duly make his or her appointment to fill the vacancy from the list of legally qualified persons within five days after the list is received. If the list is not submitted to the Governor within the 15-day period, the Governor shall appoint within five days thereafter a legally qualified person of the same political party with which the person holding the office immediately preceding the vacancy was affiliated at the time the vacancy occurred.
- (b) In the case of a member of the House of Delegates, if the member was elected to a multi-county delegate district the list shall be submitted by the party executive committee of the delegate district in which the vacating member resided at the time of his or her election or appointment. If the member was elected to a delegate district situated entirely within a single county, the list shall be submitted by the county executive committee in which the vacating member resided at the time of his or her election or appointment. The appointment to fill a vacancy in the House of Delegates is for the unexpired term.

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(c) In the case of a state senator, if the member was elected to a multi-county senatorial
district the list shall be submitted by the party executive committee of the state senatorial district
in which the vacating senator resided at the time of his or her election or appointment. If the
member was elected to a senatorial district situated entirely within a single county, the list shall
be submitted by the county executive committee in which the vacating member resided at the
time of his or her election or appointment. The appointment to fill a vacancy in the state Senate
is for the unexpired term, unless §3-10-1 of this code requires a subsequent election to fill the
remainder of the term, which shall follow the procedure set forth in said section.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the fore correctly enrolled.	egoing bill is	
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Chairman, House Committee	OFFICE OF SECRET	
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PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR

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