## **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

### 2025 REGULAR SESSION

**Enrolled** 

**Committee Substitute** 

for

Senate Bill 500

By SENATORS CHAPMAN AND DEEDS [Passed April 7, 2025; in effect 90 days from passage (July 6, 2025)]

## **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

**2025 REGULAR SESSION** 

1025 APR 24 P 4: 37
OFFICE OF WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE

**Enrolled** 

**Committee Substitute** 

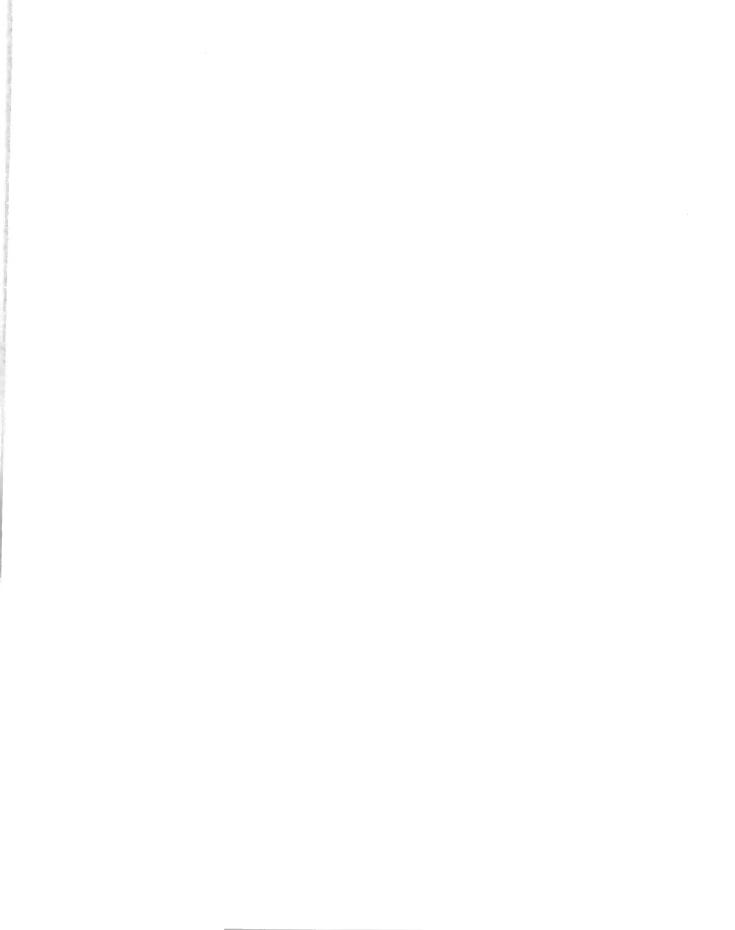
for

Senate Bill 500

By Senators Chapman and Deeds

[Passed April 7, 2025; in effect 90 days from passage  $\,$ 

(July 6, 2025)]



- 1 AN ACT to amend and reenact §8-15-7a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
- 2 to transferring audit authority for volunteer fire companies to the Legislative Auditor.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

# ARTICLE 15. FIRE FIGHTING; FIRE COMPANIES; CIVIL SERVICE FOR PAID FIRE DEPARTMENTS.

#### §8-15-7a. Audit or financial examination of volunteer fire companies.

The West Virginia Legislative Auditor (Legislative Auditor) shall have the authority and the duty to make a regular review of the finances of each volunteer fire company constituted under the provisions of this article. Audits or financial examinations are not required to be conducted on an annual basis, but shall be scheduled as to complete a review of each volunteer fire company at least once every five years: *Provided*, That nothing in this section shall prevent the Legislative Auditor from conducting more than one financial examination or audit of a volunteer fire company within the five-year period if the Legislative Auditor has cause to believe that loss, mismanagement, misuse, or waste of the funds of the company that may occur or is occurring. The scope of the Legislative Auditor's examination or audit shall include all income of the voluntary fire company, regardless of the source of funds, the assets, liabilities, and all expenditures of the company: *Provided, however*, That the Legislative Auditor shall implement internal policies to ensure that any costs associated with an audit under this section of the code may be carried by the Legislative Auditor. The Legislative Auditor, upon discovering any concerning or suspicious financial transactions, shall request the State Auditor to investigate and pursue correction or prosecution, as appropriate, of any misconduct, mismanagement, misuse, or waste.

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The Clerk of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Delegates hereby certify that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Clerif of the House of Delegates

1025 APR 24 P 4:37

Originated in the Senate.

In effect 90 days from passage.

Clerk of the Senate

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Delegates

The within is approved this the 24th 2025.

Day of April 2025.

PATTUR MY Governor

### PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR

APR 1 0 2025

Time 9:15am