

MEMORANDUM

TO: Hailey Bibbee, Administrative Associate

FROM: Marybeth Beller, Faculty Senate Liaison to Legislative Affairs Committee

DATE: February 15, 2024

RE: Committee Report

The Legislative Affairs Committee met on January 12, 2024. We have since scheduled two meetings to monitor legislation we are tracking, but as these bills are not yet moving, both meetings have been cancelled.

We are tracking the following bills:

1. HB 4387, Relating to Nondiscrimination at Institutions of Higher Education, has one sponsor and has been referred to House Education.
https://www.wvlegislature.gov/Bill_Text_HTML/2024_SESSIONS/RS/bills/hb4387%20intr.pdf
2. HB 4981, Gun Carry Allowed on College Campuses, has one sponsor and has been referred to House Education and then How Judiciary
https://www.wvlegislature.gov/Bill_Text_HTML/2024_SESSIONS/RS/bills/hb4981%20intr.pdf
This bill clarifies that it is not a crime for anyone who possesses a state license to carry a concealed deadly weapon to do so on a college campus.
3. HB 4958, To Create the American Campuses Act, has one sponsor and has been referred to House Education.
https://www.wvlegislature.gov/Bill_Text_HTML/2024_SESSIONS/RS/bills/hb4958%20intr.pdf
This bill prohibits “missions of Foreign Countries of Risk to state higher education institutions; prohibiting involvement with any Foreign Government-Sponsored Talent Recruitment Program of a Foreign Country of Risk.”
4. HB 4939, Banning Certain Practices by medical Students without Informed Consent, has four sponsors and is referred to House Health and Human Services
https://www.wvlegislature.gov/Bill_Text_HTML/2024_SESSIONS/RS/bills/hb4939%20intr.pdf
5. HB 4899, WV Belief-Based Campus Student Organization Bill, has three sponsors and is referred to House Education.
https://www.wvlegislature.gov/Bill_Text_HTML/2024_SESSIONS/RS/bills/hb4899%20intr.pdf
6. HB 4846, In God We Trust signs, has 11 sponsors, including Speaker Hanshaw, and has been referred to House Education.
https://www.wvlegislature.gov/Bill_Text_HTML/2024_SESSIONS/RS/bills/hb4846%20intr.pdf

Important Dates to Note:

We have passed the last day in the House to introduce bills. The last day to introduce bills in the Senate is this coming Monday, February 19th. Exceptions to this rule include appropriation bills and resolutions.

Bills are due out of committees no later than February 25th; however, the calendar can be changed so that bills are discharged from committees and brought to the floor, so that date should not provide relief for people tracking legislation. Bills can also be amended into active bills.

The key date to look for is February 28, the last day to consider a bill on third reading in the house of origin. This is also known as cross-over day. So look at the legislative website on the 29th. If a bill you are tracking did not pass its house of origin on the 28th, it is dead.

March 9th is the last day of session.