



HB2778 Tax Credit Bill for Homeschoolers

Creates a tax credit against West Virginia state income tax in an amount up to three thousand dollars for qualifying educational expenses. This is for parents of students participating in non-public schools (K-12).

Status: Referred to House Education Committee; House Finance Committee would follow.

(Sponsors: Foster, Steele, Jeffries, Smith, Linville, G. Ward, Burkhammer, Hardy, Jennings, Hanna, Ellington)

HB2584 “Raylee’s Law”

Prohibits homeschool exemption if there is a *pending investigation* of a parent or guardian for child abuse or neglect. (While the bill may be well intended, it bypasses due process for a parent – a mere unfounded accusation by anyone could disqualify a family from homeschooling until an investigation occurs and they are shown to be innocent.)

Status: Referred to House Education Committee; House Judiciary Committee would follow.

(Sponsors: Fluharty and Clark)

HB2367 Homeschool Diploma Recognition Act

Complements the existing “Diploma Fairness Law” for homeschoolers passed in 2015. This bill would create a new section in the law further clarifying that the parent can legally execute any document to evidence the enrollment of a child in an educational program.

Status: Referred to House Education Committee

Sponsors: Foster, Espinosa, Hanna, Smith, Burkhammer, and Hardy

HB3017 Annual Academic Assessment Removal

Removes testing and portfolio requirements for homeschooled students.

Status: Referred to House Education Committee

(Sponsors: Pritt, Mandt)

SB 268 Learning Pods and Microschools

Creates a new exemption from compulsory school attendance for a child who participates in a “learning pod” or “microschool”. (This is different from homeschooling, but might be of general interest.)

(Sponsors: Grady, Rucker, Smith, and Roberts)

To check the status of any proposed bill:

- Go to wvlegislature.gov and move cursor over “Bill Status” on the gold ribbon at the top.
- Click on “Bill Status”
- Enter the 3- or 4-digit bill number in the quick search box and click “Submit”.
- Scroll down to click on a link to see the bill’s text, or follow the progress of the bill by looking at the “Actions” table at the bottom.