



2009 Legislative Accomplishments by Governor Manchin & the Democratic Legislature

- **EDUCATION:**
 - Ensuring students get help with critical skills if needed when they reach 3rd & 8th grades – SB 1001
 - Allowing schools to apply to become Innovation Zones where new academic policies can be developed locally and tested – HB 109
 - Modernizing teacher hiring policies to attract more new teachers – SB 1006
 - Increasing PROMISE scholarship funding to allow more students to receive scholarships protecting the program's long term viability - SB 373
 - Allowing veterans to attend WV colleges at in-state tuition rates - HB 2335
- **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ENERGY:**
 - Creating tax incentives to attract high tech data centers – SB 1003
 - Increasing the use of alternative & renewable energy to 25% of all output by 2025 – HB 103
 - Securing unemployment compensation fund: maintain its solvency at minimal cost – SB 246
 - Reporting of industrial accidents to authorities & the public in a timely manner - SB 279
 - Establishing carbon sequestration rules: promotes pilot projects - HB 2860
 - Establishing new procedures to ensure better post-mine land use planning to help create jobs – SB 1011
 - Updating the state building code promoting energy efficiency - HB 2976
- **HEALTH CARE:**
 - Raising salaries for mental health care workers at state hospitals – SB 1002
 - Creating tax breaks to help parents who care for autistic children – SB 1009
 - Increasing coordination of state's health care programs - SB414
- **RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT:**
 - Fixing state pension loophole to help prevent double-dipping - SB 244
 - Expanding early voting to allow counties to create additional early voting locations - HB 2464
 - Extending the deadline for teachers to convert back to the old retirement system, helping to ensure the system's solvency - HB 2870
 - Helping cities better manage their pensions, saving cities money at no cost to state taxpayers – SB 4007
 - New voting methods for military and overseas citizens to make it easier for them vote – HB 406
 - WV was one of very few states to end the fiscal year with a surplus – most states have had to make drastic cuts or raise taxes