



HOUSE OF DELEGATES WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

BUILDING 1, ROOM M-260
1900 KANAWHA BLVD., EAST
CHARLESTON, WV 25305-0470
PHONE (304) 340-3240

July 18, 2023

The Honorable Jim Justice
Office of the Governor
State Capitol, 1900 Kanawha Blvd. E
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Governor Justice:

The House Democratic Caucus writes to urge you to call the Legislature into a Special Session during the August 6-8 interim meetings to address our state's worsening corrections, foster care, and higher education funding crises. With so many fires burning at the same time, House Democrats stand ready to act to help West Virginians.

With the surplus that you announced this month, we should address these challenges that for far too long have gone unaddressed. A \$1.8 billion surplus doesn't do much good for the 8,000 children in foster care if we don't act to help them. The surplus won't help our colleges and universities offset their shortfalls if we don't act to help them. And the surplus won't help our struggling corrections workers if we don't act to help them by finally adjusting their outdated pay scale.

We stand ready to assist our foster children and our corrections workers. We will also stand by our colleges and universities and support funding to make our K-12 schools safe.

House Democrats are united in asking you to call a Special Session so we can do the work on behalf of all West Virginians.

Sincerely,

The House Democratic Caucus