



GOV. JUSTICE RECOGNIZES DOT EMPLOYEE FOR SAVING MOTHER, CHILD FROM VEHICLE ON I-68

CHARLESTON, WV – Gov. Jim Justice recognized a West Virginia Department of Transportation employee today for rescuing a mother and child from their disabled vehicle on I-68 in Monongalia County earlier this month

before it exploded into flames. Tina Bragg, a seven-year WV DOT employee and supervisor of the I-68 Coopers Rock Maintenance center for Monongalia and Preston counties, and members of her crew were doing routine

inspections along I-68 when she pulled in behind a car that had smoke coming out of it. She noticed a woman frantically trying to get her child out of a child car seat. Bragg, who is also a volunteer firefighter, with over 20 years of experi-

ence, ran to help, rushing the woman and child to a safe distance away and calling 911. As they waited for emergency responders, the vehicle, now fully involved in flames, suddenly exploded.

“Tina is a hero,” Gov. Justice

said when presenting her with a Certificate of Recognition. “This was a selfless act of bravery and she saved lives.” When asked about the incident, Bragg humbly responded, “My training as a firefighter just kicked in and I was

able to get them out and to a safe distance. I was just doing my job.”

Kavanaugh Hearing Set

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley announced today that the hearing for SCOTUS nominee

Judge Brett Kavanaugh will begin on September 4 and is expected to last for three or four days. Opening statements by

Judiciary Committee members and the nominee will occur on Tuesday, September 4. The questioning of Judge Kavanaugh will begin on

Wednesday, September 5. Testimony by those who know Judge Kavanaugh the best, outside legal experts, and the American Bar Association is expected to follow.

This announcement comes after the committee has received the largest number of Executive Branch records ever for the consideration of a Supreme Court nominee. As of today, the committee has received more than 184,000 pages of records from Judge Kavanaugh's work as a White House lawyer and his work for Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr. The committee also expects to receive hundreds of thousands of additional pages of Executive Branch documents. These records will be reviewed in



addition to the 307 cases in which Judge Kavanaugh wrote an opinion as an appeals court judge, the hundreds more opinions he joined, and the more than 17,500 pages of material he provided in response to the committee's bipartisan questionnaire. “I am looking forward to the

hearings and the final confirmation of Judge Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court,” said Liberty Counsel Founder and Chairman Mat Staver. “We need more people on the bench who share his judicial philosophy that judges should interpret, not make the law.”

MANCHIN APPLAUDS PRESIDENT TRUMP FOR SIGNING CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION ACT REAUTHORIZATION

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) applauded President Trump for signing the reauthorization of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act. This legislation will provide funding for CTE programs and stands as the largest federal investment in America's high schools, as well as a significant source of support for postsecondary institutions. The reauthorization passed the Senate unanimously last week.

“I have always strongly supported this legislation and am glad the President signed this reauthorization that will have a significant impact on improving our education system,” Senator Manchin said. “These updates will align our curriculum priorities with local economic needs, enabling more than 25,000 West Virginia students to develop skills for high-wage and in-demand jobs. The updates are just what West Virginia needs in its pursuit to diversify its economy and strengthen its workforce.”

“We are extremely thankful for the reauthorization of the Federal Perkins grant by the US Senate. This program allows our community colleges to provide students the career technical education they need to join West Virginia's technical workforce,” said Chancellor of the WV Community and Technical College System Dr. Sarah Tucker. “Perkins funding makes sure our colleges stay relevant and responsive to the business and industry needs of our state.”

Updates to the Perkins Career and Technical Education (CTE) Act

Requires states and local CTE providers to ensure career and technical education programs are responsive to local community economic needs to help students gain the skills needed to enter high-skill, high-wage or in-demand jobs.

Allows States to develop state-determined levels of performance on required performance indicators, removing the requirement that

States negotiate with the Secretary in current law. But requires states to meet certain requirements when setting levels of performance, including consulting with stakeholders to establish State-determined levels of performance for graduation rates, credential attainment, job placement, continued education, and other indicators that signify high-quality programs preparing students for success in the classroom and the workplace.

Improves transparency around accountability and student performance for all CTE students by collecting data disaggregated by student groups that updates the law to align with the Every Student Succeeds Act and adds additional special populations.

Allows the Secretary to fund state and locally designed initiatives to improve skills training through innovative methods and to update curriculum, equipment and technology, with the support of local stakeholders like industry or sector partnerships, qualified intermediaries, and those most able to support program quality at the state or local level.

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