

Feb. 26, 2010

GOVERNOR TO TOUR DILAPIDATED STRUCTURES MONDAY

Contact: Sara Payne Scarbro, 304-558-2000

CHARLESTON, W.Va. - Gov. Joe Manchin will join Huntington Mayor Kim Wolfe, members of the Cabell County Commission, Huntington Police Chief Skip Holbrook and Huntington Fire Chief C. Creig Moore to tour three dilapidated structures in Huntington.

The governor is asking the West Virginia Legislature to pass two pieces of legislation that will give counties and municipalities tools to better track vacant properties and clean up their communities. HB 4034, also known as the vacant registration bill, gives cities another tool to help track vacant properties and gives them some local autonomy in the registration process. HB 4038, also known as the debris removal lien bill, allows counties and/or municipalities to place liens on burned out structures. The lien would be removed on the property when either the debt is paid in full or when the damage is repaired.

“As I said in my State of the State address, we need to help our cities and counties clean up and better track vacant properties,” Manchin said. “Vacant, dilapidated structures are unsafe and pose a risk of collapsing and they are often ground zero for drug deals and other crimes. That is why I introduced legislation to help our cities and counties keep communities strong, safe and clean. These two bills will give our communities the tools they need to track vacant properties and clean up the dilapidated ones.”

Time: 9:45 a.m.
Location: Huntington City Hall (8th Street side)
What: Tour of Dilapidated Structures (three locations in Huntington)

On-site contact is Sara Payne Scarbro, 304-546-1726. Transportation will be provided for media outlets or they may follow the trolley to the locations.

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