

1 **H. B. 2273**

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3 (By Delegate Caputo) (By Request)  
4 [Introduced January 12, 2011; referred to the  
5 Committee on Energy, Industry and Labor, Economic  
6 Development and Small Business then the Judiciary.]  
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10 A BILL to amend and reenact §22A-10-1 of the Code of West Virginia,  
11 1931, as amended, relating to requiring paramedics to be on  
12 site at coal mines.

13 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

14 That §22A-10-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended,  
15 be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

16 **ARTICLE 10. EMERGENCY MEDICAL PERSONNEL.**

17 **§22A-10-1. Emergency personnel in coal mines.**

18 (a) Emergency medical services personnel and paramedics must  
19 be employed on each shift at every mine that:

20 (1) Employs more than ten employees; and

21 (2) Has more than eight persons present on the shift.

22 The emergency medical services personnel must be employed at  
23 their regular duties at a central location or, when more than one  
24 person is required pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b) of

1 this section, at a location which provides for convenient, quick  
2 response to emergency. The emergency medical services personnel  
3 must have available to them at all times such equipment prescribed  
4 by the Director of the Office of Miners' Health, Safety and  
5 Training, in consultation with the Commissioner of the Bureau of  
6 Public Health.

7 (b) ~~After the first day of July, two thousand,~~ Emergency  
8 medical services personnel means any person certified by the  
9 Commissioner of the Bureau ~~of~~ for Public Health or authorities  
10 recognized and approved by the commissioner to provide emergency  
11 medical services as authorized in article four-c, chapter sixteen  
12 of this code and including emergency medical technician-mining.  
13 Paramedic means any person certified as an emergency medical  
14 technician-paramedic by the Commissioner for the Bureau for Public  
15 Health. At least one emergency medical services personnel and one  
16 paramedic shall be employed at a mine for every fifty employees or  
17 any part thereof who are engaged at any time, in the extraction,  
18 production or preparation of coal.

19 (c) A training course designed specifically for certification  
20 of emergency medical technician-mining, shall be developed at the  
21 earliest practicable time by the Commissioner of the Bureau ~~of~~ for  
22 Public Health in consultation with the board of Miner Training,  
23 Education and Certification. The training course for initial  
24 certification as an emergency medical technician-mining ~~shall~~ may

1 not be less than sixty hours, which shall include, but is not  
2 limited to, basic life support skills and emergency room  
3 observation or other equivalent practical exposure to emergencies  
4 as prescribed by the Commissioner of the Bureau ~~of~~ for Public  
5 Health.

6 (d) The maintenance of a valid emergency medical technician-  
7 mining certificate may be accomplished without taking a three-year  
8 recertification examination: *Provided*, That the emergency medical  
9 technician-mining personnel completes an eight-hour annual  
10 retraining and testing program prescribed by the Commissioner of  
11 the Bureau ~~of~~ for Public Health in consultation with the board of  
12 Miner Training, Education and Certification.

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NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require paramedics to be on site at coal mines.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from the present law, and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.