1	Senate Bill No. 270
2	(By Senators Laird, Snyder and Foster)
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4	[Introduced January 25, 2011; referred to the Committee on
5	Government Organization; and then to the Committee on Finance.]
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10	A BILL to amend and reenact §5A-1A-4 of the Code of West Virginia,
11	1931, as amended, relating to increasing the maximum cash
12	award the Employee Suggestion Award Board may make; requiring
13	the board to report to the Legislature every five years
14	regarding effect of inflation; and allowing the Governor to
15	make a secondary award for suggestions if the suggestion is
16	implemented in one or more additional state agencies.
17	Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:
18	That §5A-1A-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended,
19	be amended and reenacted to read as follows:
20	ARTICLE 1A. EMPLOYEE SUGGESTION AWARD PROGRAM.
21	§5A-1A-4. Awards.
22	<u>(a)</u> The maximum cash award approved shall be <u>is</u> limited to
23	twenty percent of the first year's estimated savings, as

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1 established by the head of the affected spending unit, or ten 2 thousand dollars $\frac{16,000}{1000}$ whichever is less. Any <u>A</u> cash award 3 approved by the board shall be charged by the head of the affected 4 spending unit against the appropriation item or items to which such 5 the estimated savings apply.

6 (b) Beginning in December 2014 and every five years after 7 that, the board shall submit a report to the Joint Committee on 8 Government and Finance containing:

9 <u>(1) The amount the maximum award amount would need to be</u> 10 <u>adjusted to compensate for inflation; and</u>

11 (2) Its recommendation, if any, addressing the amount the 12 maximum award amount should be changed.

13 (c) After the board has made an award for a suggestion, the

14 Governor may make one secondary award of up to twenty percent of

15 the additional savings realized by implementing the suggestion in

16 one or more other state agencies, not to exceed \$5,000. The

17 Governor shall pay secondary awards from funds appropriated by the

18 Legislature for secondary awards.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to:

(1) Increase the maximum cash award the Employee Suggestion Award Board may make for an individual award to \$16,000;

(2) Require the board to report to the Legislature every five years the amount the maximum award amount would need to be adjusted to compensate for inflation and give its recommendation, if any, addressing the amount the maximum award amount should be changed; and

(3) Allow the Governor to make a secondary award of up to

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\$5,000 for suggestions the board has approved if the suggestion is implemented in one or more additional state agencies.

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