

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2016 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 130

**FISCAL
NOTE**

BY SENATOR LAIRD

[Introduced January 13, 2016;

Referred to the Committee on Banking and Insurance;

and then to the Committee on Finance.]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
 2 designated §5-16-8a, relating to air-ambulance fees paid by the West Virginia Public
 3 Employees Insurance Agency; and establishing maximum amount permitted to be
 4 collected.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

1 That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new
 2 section, designated §5-16-8a, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 16. WEST VIRGINIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES INSURANCE ACT.

§5-16-8a. Air-ambulance fees.

1 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of this code to the contrary, any air-ambulance provider
 2 which does not have a contract with the plan and which provides air-transportation or related
 3 emergency or treatment services, or both, to an employee or dependent of an employee covered
 4 by the plan, may not collect from the plan and the covered employee or dependent of the
 5 employee, a combined amount for those services which exceeds the reimbursement amount then
 6 in effect for the federal Medicare program, including any applicable Geographic Practice Cost
 7 Index.

8 (b) If an air-ambulance provider has collected a subscription fee from an employee or
 9 dependent of an employee covered by the plan, the air-ambulance provider shall accept that
 10 subscription fee as payment in full for any air-ambulance transport and related emergency or
 11 treatment services which the air-ambulance provider may provide to that employee or dependent
 12 of the employee. For purposes of this section, a subscription fee is a fee collected by an air-
 13 ambulance provider from a person in advance of any immediate need for air-ambulance services.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to set the maximum amount for air-ambulance services which may be collected pursuant to the plans of the West Virginia Public Employees Insurance Agency.

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