

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2016 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 456

**FISCAL
NOTE**

BY SENATORS COLE (MR. PRESIDENT) AND KESSLER

(BY REQUEST OF THE EXECUTIVE)

[Introduced February 2, 2016;

Referred to the Committee on Health and Human
Resources; 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 for emergency treatment or air
3 transportation; allowing providers of air ambulance services not under contract to collect
4 an amount up to the equivalent paid for federal reimbursement for services rendered to
5 employees or dependents; and requiring providers of air ambulance services that enter
6 into a subscription service agreement with employees or dependents to accept the
7 subscription fee as payment in full for services rendered.

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, that provides air transportation or related emergency
3 or treatment services to an employee or dependent of an employee covered by the plan, may not
4 collect from the plan and the covered employee or dependent of the employee, a combined
5 amount for those services which exceeds the reimbursement amount then in effect for the federal
6 Medicare program, including any applicable Geographic Practice Cost Index.

7 (b) If an air-ambulance provider has entered into a subscription service agreement with
8 an employee or dependent of an employee covered by the plan, and the employee or dependent
9 is in good standing with the agreement, the air-ambulance provider shall accept the fee or cost of
10 the subscription service agreement as payment in full for any air-ambulance transport and related
11 emergency treatment or services which the air-ambulance provider may provide to that employee
12 or dependent of an employee.

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.