

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2023 REGULAR SESSION**

**Introduced**

### **House Bill 2785**

By Delegates Walker and Hansen

[Introduced January 18, 2023; Referred to the  
Committee on Health and Human Resources then  
Finance]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,  
 2 designated §5-16-30, relating to reimbursing individuals for healthcare costs at a facility  
 3 who no longer accepts PEIA.

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

**ARTICLE 16. WEST VIRGINIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES INSURANCE ACT.**

**§5-16-30. PEIA reimbursement to individuals in certain situations.**

1 (a) Legislative findings. – Some hospitals have decided to stop accepting PEIA as a form of  
 2 insurance, leaving many West Virginians with limited options on how to afford healthcare.  
 3 Because of this, it is instrumental that those persons who are in a PEIA plan are financially  
 4 protected from the actions of healthcare providers who will not accept their insurance. The best  
 5 way to do this is to ensure payment is made to those individuals in the amount of their bills.

6 (b) Establishment of section. – Effective immediately, individuals enrolled in a PEIA plan  
 7 who have outstanding medical bills for treatment at a healthcare facility who no longer accepts  
 8 PEIA, but who previously accepted PEIA, shall have the full amount of their medical bills  
 9 reimbursed to them. Participants in PEIA must provide a copy of the amount owed to PEIA, and  
 10 the reimbursement shall occur within seven days upon receipt of the invoice received.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to reimburse individuals for healthcare costs at a facility who no longer accepts PEIA.

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