1 Senate Bill No. 457 2 (By Senators Prezioso, Tucker, Laird and Plymale) 3 [Introduced March 6, 2013; referred to the Committee on 4 5 Transportation and Infrastructure; and then to the Committee on 6 Finance.] 7 8 9 10 11 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by 12 adding thereto a new section, designated §5-16-8a, relating to 13 air-ambulance fees paid by the West Virginia Public Employees 14 Insurance Agency. 15 Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia: That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended 16 17 by adding thereto a new section, designated §5-16-8a, to read as 18 follows: 19 ARTICLE 16. WEST VIRGINIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES INSURANCE ACT. 20 §5-16-8a. Air-ambulance fees. (a) Notwithstanding any provision of this code to the 21 22 contrary, any air-ambulance provider which does not have a contract 23 with the plan and which provides air-transportation and/or related 1 emergency or treatment services to an employee or dependent of an

2 employee covered by the plan, may not collect from the plan and the

3 covered employee or dependent of the employee, a combined amount

4 for those services which exceeds the reimbursement amount then in

5 effect for the Federal Medicare program, including any applicable

6 Geographic Practice Cost Index (GPCI).

7 (b) If any air-ambulance provider has collected a subscription

8 fee from an employee or dependent of an employee covered by the

9 plan, the air-ambulance provider shall accept that subscription fee

10 as payment in full for any air-ambulance transport and related

11 emergency or treatment services which the air-ambulance provider

12 may provide to that employee or dependent of the employee. For

13 purposes of this section, a subscription fee is a fee collected by

14 an air-ambulance provider from a person in advance of any immediate

15 need for air-ambulance services.

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

This section is new; therefore, strike-throughs and underscoring have been omitted.