

SWEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2025 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 2968

By Delegates Ellington, Hornby, W. Clark, D. Smith,
Crouse, White, T. Clark, Coop-Gonzalez, and Miller

Introduced February 25, 2025; referred to the
Committee on Finance

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section,
 2 designated §5-16-33, relating to the cessation of PEIA as a public healthcare entity;
 3 providing for the continuation of PEIA as a private healthcare insurance company;
 4 providing for a monthly payment to the employment into a Health Savings Account
 5 ("HSA"); and providing for an effective date.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 16. WEST VIRGINIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES INSURANCE ACT.

§5-16-33. Cessation of PEIA as public healthcare entity; allowing for the privatization and continuation of PEIA; money paid directly to employee; effective date.

1 (a) PEIA shall cease to operate as a public healthcare entity in this state after the effective
 2 date of this section.

3 (b) PEIA may continue to operate in this state as a private healthcare entity.

4 (c) All monies that are currently distributed to PEIA from the employer shall be paid directly
 5 to the employee in the form of a match in a Health Savings Account ("HSA") for the employee to
 6 use for the payment of healthcare insurance premiums or other related healthcare expenditures.

7 (d) The monthly payment to the employee shall be in the amount of \$1,100, to be paid
 8 directly to the HSA, as otherwise set forth in §5-16-27 of this code.

9 (e) An employee may choose his or her own healthcare provider to use funds from the
 10 HSA, or the employee may continue to pay into PEIA as a private provider if he or she chooses.

11 (f) This section shall become effective July 1, 2025.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill relates to the cessation of PEIA as a public healthcare entity. The bill permits PEIA to operate as a private healthcare insurance company. The bill provides for a monthly payment to employees for the payment of healthcare premiums and related healthcare expenditures. Finally, the bill provides for an effective date.

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