

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2025 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 3473

By Delegate Jennings

[Introduced March 17, 2025; referred to the
Committee on Government Organization then
Finance]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §7-15-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to
2 ambulance service; requiring the county commissions to provide ambulance service to all
3 residents, and requiring the county commission submit a yearly report to the Office of
4 Emergency Medical Services on the funds expended the year prior on emergency
5 ambulance services.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 15. EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICE ACT OF 1975.

**§7-15-4. Duty of county commissions to provide emergency ambulance service;
emergency ambulance service authorities authorized; authorities to be public
corporations.**

1 Except as hereinafter provided and in addition to all other duties imposed upon it by law,
2 the county commission shall cause emergency ambulance service to be made available to all the
3 residents of the county where such service is not otherwise available: ~~Provided, however, That the~~
4 ~~duty imposed upon county commissions by this article shall not be construed in such manner as to~~
5 ~~impose a duty to cause such emergency ambulance service to be provided unless the commission~~
6 ~~shall make an affirmative determination that there are funds available therefor by the inclusion of a~~
7 ~~projected expenditure for such purpose in the current levy estimate, and in the event that such~~
8 ~~county commission shall make such determination the commission shall not be under a duty to~~
9 ~~cause such service to be provided beyond a level commensurate with the amount of funds actually~~
10 ~~available for such purpose.~~

11 The county commission may provide the service directly through its agents, servants and
12 employees; or through private enterprise; or by its designees; or by contracting with individuals,
13 groups, associations, corporations or otherwise; or it may cause such services to be provided by
14 an authority, as provided for in this article; and any municipality or county, or both, or any two or
15 more municipalities within any county or contiguous counties, or any two or more contiguous
16 counties, or any combination thereof, may create an authority. Such authority shall be created

17 upon the adoption, by the governing body of each participating government, acting individually, of
18 an appropriate ordinance or order. Each authority shall constitute a public corporation, and as
19 such, shall have perpetual existence. The authority shall be known by such name as may be
20 established by the board.

21 The county commission shall submit to the Office of Emergency Medical Services by
22 September 1st of each year a report on the manner in which emergency ambulance service is
23 made available in the county and the amount of county funds expended the prior fiscal year to fund
24 emergency ambulance services.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require the county commissions to provide ambulance service to all residents and to submit a yearly report to the Office of Emergency Medical Services on the funds expended the year prior on emergency ambulance services.

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