

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2025 REGULAR SESSION

Committee Substitute

for

Senate Bill 921

By Senator Maynard

[Reported March 27, 2025, from the Committee on
Government Organization]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article,
2 designated §16-4F-1, §16-4F-2, §16-4F-3, §16-4F-4, and §16-4F-5, relating to mandating
3 oversight, guidance, and support from the Office of Emergency Medical Services to county
4 commissions; establishing duties of Office of Emergency Medical Services; and providing
5 for implementation and reports to the Legislature.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

**ARTICLE 4F. WEST VIRGINIA EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES OVERSIGHT AND
SUPPORT ACT.**

§16-4F-1. Short title.

1 This Act shall be known as the "West Virginia Emergency Medical Services Oversight and
2 Support Act."

§16-4F-2. Purpose.

1 The purpose of this act is to ensure the efficient operation, accountability, and sustainability
2 of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) across the state by mandating oversight, guidance, and
3 support from the Office of Emergency Medical Services to county commissions.

§16-4F-3. Duties of the Office of Emergency Medical Services.

1 (a) Structure and Guidance. — The Office of Emergency Medical Services shall:

2 (1) Develop and implement a standardized framework for county EMS operations;

3 (2) Provide guidance on best practices for staffing, resource allocation, and response
4 efficiency; and

5 (3) Assist county commissions in structuring their EMS services, including those operated
6 by volunteer fire departments.

7 (b) Auditing and Needs-Based Funding. — The Office of Emergency Medical Services
8 shall:

9 (1) Conduct financial audits of all county EMS services, including those affiliated with

volunteer fire departments, to ensure accountability and proper fund allocation;

(2) Distribute state EMS funding based on a needs-based assessment, prioritizing counties with limited resources and high call volumes; and

(3) Establish financial reporting requirements for all EMS providers receiving state funds.

(c) Facility Inspections and Operational Audits. — The Office of Emergency Medical Services shall:

(1) Conduct regular inspections of all EMS facilities, including those operated by county commissions and volunteer fire departments, to ensure compliance with state and federal standards;

(2) Audit operational procedures, equipment maintenance, and service readiness; and

(3) Provide corrective action plans and assistance for any facility found to be non-compliant.

(d) Continuing Education and Training. — The Office of Emergency Medical Services shall:

(1) Oversee and coordinate continuing education programs for EMS personnel;

(2) Ensure that training programs meet state and national accreditation standards; and.

(3) Offer technical assistance to counties in developing local training programs.

(e) County Commission Assistance. — The Office of Emergency Medical Services shall:

(1) Serve as a direct resource for any county commission facing challenges in maintaining or improving EMS services;

(2) Provide emergency operational support and recommendations for counties experiencing EMS shortages or failures; and

(3) Facilitate partnerships between counties to improve regional EMS coverage and response times.

§16-4F-4. Implementation and Reporting.

On or before December 31, 2026, and annually thereafter, the Office of Emergency Medical Services shall submit a report to the Legislature detailing:

- 3 (1) The Office of Emergency Medical Services facility inspection results;
- 4 (2) Audit findings and financial assessments;
- 5 (3) Distribution of needs-based funding;
- 6 (4) Continuing education initiatives; and
- 7 (5) County commission assistance provided.