March 2, 2023

TO: Hospital Executive Staff

WVHA Member Hospitals and Health Systems

FROM: Tony Gregory, Vice President Legislative Affairs

SUBJECT: Continued Call to Action on SB 268 re: PEIA

House Finance Committee adopts SB 268 relating to PEIA

Following lengthy debate this afternoon, the House Finance Committee adopted a revised version of SB 268 which provides for a series of comprehensive changes to the Public Employees Insurance Agency (PEIA). The key provisions for hospitals were retained in the bill. They increase PEIA inpatient rates effective July 1, 2023, to 110% of Medicare, including language clarifying this rate also applies to critical access hospitals per diem, per day rate. The vote in committee was largely along party lines.

Be sure to thank your <u>House Finance Committee members</u> for their support of the bill and the payment provisions related to hospitals and other health care providers. We're now turning our attention to the <u>full House</u>. If you haven't already done so, please contact your local delegate (s) and ask they support SB 268. Contact information is available <u>here</u>. It's important that delegates hear from the hospital and health care community as teachers and school service personnel are ramping up opposition to this bill.

Additionally, please find attached an Op/Ed that will be distributed to statewide media tomorrow expressing our support for the hospital payment provisions in SB 268. If you have any questions, please contact me, Jim Kaufman, Brandon Hatfield or Melanie Dempsey. Thanks.

Tony

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