



The Honorable Patrick Morrissey
Office of the Governor
State of West Virginia
State Capitol Complex, Building 1
Charleston, WV 25305

The Honorable Randy Smith, President
West Virginia State Senate
Room 229M, Building 1
State Capitol Complex
Charleston, WV 25305

The Honorable Roger Hanshaw, Speaker
West Virginia House of Delegates
Room 228M, Building 1
State Capitol Complex
Charleston, WV 25305

RE: FY 2025 and FY 2026 Unfunded EMS Salary Enhancement

Dear Governor Morrissey and Members of the Legislature,

On behalf of EMS personnel across West Virginia, we are jointly writing to ask your help to identify a funding source for the EMS Salary Enhancement Funds within the 2025 and 2026 FY budgets.

When a call comes to 911 for an injury, car wreck or heart attack, West Virginia's EMS personnel do whatever it takes to provide care and save lives. Nights, weekends, holidays, rain and snow, EMS answers the call from our communities over a million times each year.

A career in EMS is difficult and dangerous work. Beyond long hours and challenges associated with delivering care in the field, EMTs and Paramedics routinely encounter violent patients particularly when responding to a drug overdose or when caring for patients with behavioral health conditions.

And because of the lack of direct state financial support and inadequate insurance rates by government health plans, ambulance agencies in West Virginia struggle to compensate EMS professionals competitively with neighboring states. Employees can often earn \$2-3 more per hour simply by crossing the border.

EMS agencies are not just competing to recruit and retain EMTs and paramedics against other states, they are also competing for a workforce against other better paying health care professions in West Virginia which offer regular hours, holidays off and a more predictable work environment.

In 2023, the WV Legislature passed SB 737 creating the EMS Salary Enhancement Fund to assist with these problems. At the time, EMS was facing a crippling shortage of EMS workers due to a host of issues including both low wages and mental health challenges. This fund was one of several solutions that helped to stabilize the EMS workforce in many counties keeping 911 response available.

The Salary Enhancement funds go directly to those providing care and emergency response. There are deep concerns about the fallout if moneys, EMS personnel feel were promised to them, are not delivered. A mass exodus from the field of EMS by individuals that already feel overworked and under-appreciated could occur. This would result in further delays in patient care and possibly closures that would hit our most rural and resource strained counties the hardest.

According to Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) ambulance cost reporting data, EMS agencies lose over \$500 per 911 emergency response due to inadequate reimbursement from federal and state government insurance. This is the primary reason that approximately 25 agencies licensed by the Office of EMS to provide 911 response have ceased operations since 2022.

There simply is no other place for emergency 911 agencies to turn to secure these promised funds within their own budgets. We ask for your help in identifying a source to restore the salary enhancement funds and help show our Paramedics and EMTs that their sacrifices to serve are truly appreciated by the citizens of West Virginia.

Sincerely,

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 Jasmine Adams - Logan, WV
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 Anna Adkins - Huntington, WV
 Cassidy Adkins - Racine, WV
 David Adkins - Hamlin, WV
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 Natalie Adkins - Morgantown, WV
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 Bruce Adkins - Wayne, WV
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 William Alt - WV

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 Ina Fry - Varney, WV
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 Robert Geisel - Wheeling, WV

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 Derena Griffith - Pineville, WV
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 Amanda Gum - Sutton, WV
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 Michael Haney - Wheeling, WV
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 Katrina Hoard - Gassaway, WV
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 Dylan Hodges - Charleston, WV
 Justin Hodges - Kenova, WV
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 Tracy Holmes - Charleston, WV
 Justin Holt - Fairmont, WV
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 Jacob Howard - Wheeling, WV
 Kama Howard - Charleston, WV
 Kimberly Howard - Wheeling, WV
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 Steven Howard - Fairmont, WV
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 Samantha Howell - Point Pleasant, WV
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 Cody Hubbard - Clay, WV
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 Caroline Hudson - Charleston, WV
 Kazlyn Hughart - Beckley, WV
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 Amber Hughes - St. Albans, WV
 Daniel Hughes - Wheeling, WV
 Joseph Humphrey - St. Albans, WV
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 Kristan Hurley - Williamson, WV
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 Courtney Inman - Sissonville, WV
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 Deedee Isom - Man, WV
 Ashley Jackson - Madison, WV
 Jillian Jackson - Huntington, WV
 Libby Jarrett - Clendenin, WV
 Eva Jarvis - Grant Town, WV
 Amelia Javins - Foster, WV
 Brittany Jeffers - Huntington, WV
 Charity Jefferson - Rivesville, WV
 Stacey Jeffries - Belle, West Virginia
 Ali Jeney - Morgantown, WV
 Christy Jenkins - Charleston, WV
 Joseph Jenkins - Pratt, WV
 Dakota Jernell - Charleston, WV
 Alexander Jividen - Charleston, WV
 Chrystal Johnson - Barboursville, WV
 Jeffrey Johnson - Wheeling, WV
 Kimberly Johnson - Belington, WV
 Darren Johnson, NRP - Charleston, WV
 Andy Joltes - Wheeling, WV
 Brandon Jones - Alderson, WV
 Colton Jones - Charleston, WV
 Courtney Jones - Wheeling, WV
 Dakota Jones - Bruceton Mills, WV
 Dorothy Jones - Gap Mills, WV
 Krysten Jones - Lewis County, WV
 Natalie Jones - Gap Mills, WV
 Rainy Jones - Valley Head, WV
 Robert Jones - Gap Mills, WV
 Sharon Jones - Princeton, WV
 Thomas Jones - Harpers Ferry, WV
 Walter Joy - Morgantown, WV
 Aaron Justice - Charleston, WV
 Josh Justice - Man, WV
 Brandy Kalbaugh - Morgantown, WV
 David Kappel - Wheeling, WV
 Marley Kash - Poca, WV
 Shannon Kauffman - Davis, WV
 Daniel Kay - Letart, WV
 Beth Kearns - Mason, WV
 Niko Kefauver - Wheeling, WV
 James Keffer - Hurricane, WV
 Ian Kelsey - Huntington, WV
 Dawson Kemp - Wellsburg, WV
 Audrey Kenneda - Bluefield, WV
 Alicia Kennedy - Charleston, WV
 Brittany Kennedy - Charleston, WV
 Mark Kerns - Hurricane, WV
 Hannah Kersey - Culloden, WV
 Heather Kersey - Culloden, WV
 Timothy Kersey - Culloden, WV
 Matthew Kesling - Clarksburg, WV
 Kaitlyn Kesner - Petersburg, WV
 Rodney Kesner - Petersburg, WV
 Sarah Kessick - Charleston, WV
 Sarah Kessler - Mount Hope, WV
 David Kidd - Hamlin, WV
 Mac Kidwell - Parkersburg, WV
 Cassidy Kimball - Bruceton Mills, WV
 Rod Kimble - Philippi, WV
 Kevin Kimple - Moundsville, WV
 Heather King - Charleston, WV
 Scotty King - Charleston, WV
 Skyla King - Point Pleasant, WV
 Trenton King - Millstone, WV
 Beverly King - Clay County, WV
 Samantha Kinser - Summersville, WV
 Matthew Kirk - Mount Hope, WV
 Melissa Kirk - Delbarton, WV
 Rachel Kirk - Hurricane, WV
 Sherry Kisamore - Petersburg, WV
 Timothy Kisamore - Seneca Rocks, WV
 Adam Kitchen - Dunbar, WV
 Tasha Knight - Clay, WV
 Zachary Knuutila - Weirton, WV
 Candy Krause - Irmo, SC
 Heather Kress - Belington, WV
 Michael Kritschgau - Fairmont, WV
 Daniel Kronz - Chapmanville, WV
 Josh Kubacka - West Liberty, WV
 Christopher Kyle - Mill Creek, WV
 Cheyeane Kyle - Valley Bend, WV
 Samantha L - Culloden, WV
 Zachary Lamb, NRP - Danville, WV
 Shaun Lambert - Reedsville, WV
 Tracie Lambert - Coal City, WV

Zoë Lance - Morgantown, WV
 Angela Lane - Precious, WV
 Kathy Lane - Bunker Hill, WV
 Rhonda Lane - Madison, WV
 Shyanne Lane - Clay, WV
 Misty Lane RN - Stephenson, WV
 Robert Lantz - Terra Alta, WV
 Helen Lantz - Terra Alta, WV
 Janet Lantz - Terra Alta, WV
 Dempsey Larabee - Dunbar, WV
 Brian LaRue - Reedsville, WV
 Brooke Lautar Rhodes - Morgantown, WV
 Nick Lawrence - Oceana, WV
 Chris Lawson - Bradley, WV
 Noah Leasure - Harrisville WV
 Angela Lee - Dunbar, WV
 Eddie Lee - Dunbar, WV
 Michelle Lee - Charleston, WV
 Andrew Lefler - Beaver, WV
 Sasha Lefler - Summersville, WV
 Duane Legg - Indore, WV
 Leisa Legg - Clendenin, WV
 Alyssa Lester - Baisden, WV
 Christopher Lester - Danville, WV
 Crystal Lester - Baisden, WV
 Dennie Lester - Charleston, WV
 Samuel Lester - Moundsville, WV
 Trinity Lester - Ikes Fork, WV
 Angela Lewis - Renick, WV
 Angie Lewis - Elkins, WV
 Candace Lewis - Keyser, WV
 Frederick Lewis - Keyser, WV
 Sue Lewis - Beverly, WV
 Yvonne Lewis - Keyser, WV
 Seth Light - Daniels, WV
 Donald Liller - Keyser, WV
 Anthony Lilly - Nimitz, WV
 Jackie Lilly - Beckley, WV
 Ashley Lindsay - Valley Head, WV
 Brandi Linn - Morgantown, WV
 Christina Lively - Charleston, WV
 Donnie Lively - South Charleston, WV
 Lisa Lively - Whitesville, WV
 Kelly Lively - Charleston, WV
 Elisabeth Lloyd - Apple Grove, WV
 Nancy Lloyd - Wardensville, WV
 Michael Loborec - Wellsburg, WV
 Ranlyn Loftus - Madison, WV
 Jill Long - Petersburg, WV
 Jordyn Long - Orma, WV

Mary- Ann Lovejoy - Ghent, WV
 Ryan Loveland - Wheeling, WV
 Jeremiah Lucas - Windsor Heights WV
 Christopher Lusk - Weston, WV
 Konstance Lusk - Harrisville WV
 Mickey Lusk - Cyclone, WV
 Rocky Lusk - Lynco, WV
 Justin Lutsy - Ashford, WV
 Cody Lynch - Morgantown, WV
 Jonathan Lynch - Charleston, WV
 Aly M - Charleston, WV
 Brittany M - Elkins WV
 Justin Maberry - Elkview, WV
 Megan Maddy - Lewisburg, WV
 Hannah Mallow - Elkins, WV
 Trevor Mallow - Parsons, WV
 Dave Mann - Masontown, WV
 Jody Mann - Terra Alta, WV
 Teonia Manns - Hurricane, WV
 Lloyd Mansfield - Hinton, WV
 Teresa Mansfield - Pipestem, WV
 Jason Marker - Charleston, WV
 Andrea Markham - Milton, WV
 Sheila Marsh - Hambleton, WV
 Wendy Marshall - Parkersburg, WV
 Shawn Marshall - Parkersburg, WV
 Marshall County Commission
 Alissa Martin - Gassaway, WV
 Brandon Martin - Nutter Fort, WV
 Stacy Martin - Fairmont, WV
 Justin Martin - Charleston, WV
 Monica Mason - Scott Depot, WV
 Jennifer Massey - Mt Hope, WV
 Kelley Massey - Van, WV
 Abigail Mauck - West Liberty, WV
 Heather Mauger - Iaeger, WV
 Danny May - Ripley, WV
 Whitney May - Ripley, WV
 Johnathan Maynard - Lavalette, WV
 Kim Maynard - Logan, WV
 Haley Maynor - Pineville, WV
 Mathew McBrayer - Charleston, WV
 Michael McBrayer - Pratt, WV
 Michael McCarty - Berkeley Springs, WV
 Samantha McClanahan - Dunbar, WV
 Angela McCleary - Webster Springs, WV
 Dwight McCleary - Webster Springs, WV
 Alexis McCloud - Logan, WV
 Jordan McCloud - Chapmanville, WV
 Roy McClure - Charleston, WV

Jillian McClure - Elkins, WV
 Melissa McComas - Charleston, WV
 Rebecca McComas - Fraziers Bottom, WV
 Renee McConnell-Linn - Petersburg, WV
 Joe McCormick - Seth, WV
 Nolan McCormick - Madison, WV
 Kayla M. McCoy - Alderson, WV
 Lisa Mccoy - Hamlin, WV
 Sharon McCoy - Huntington, WV
 Angela McCoy - Whitesville, WV
 Ashley McCoy - Morrisvale, WV
 Kelly McCoy - Leon, WV
 Harriet McCray - Terra Alta, WV
 Ainsley McCroskey - Maysville, WV
 Elizabeth McCune - Spencer, WV
 Anthony McDaniel - Wheeling, WV
 Henry McDonald - Norton, WV
 Dougie Mcfalls - Whitesville, WV
 James McGlone - Huntington, WV
 Susan McGlone - Huntington, WV
 Megan McGraw - Marmet, WV
 Colleen McKenna - Elizabeth, WV
 Douglas McKinney - Brenton, WV
 Treasa McKinney - Clay, WV
 Comm'r David McLaughlin - Marshall Co.
 Clinton McNeely - Lyburn, WV
 Stephen McPeek - Pennsboro, WV
 Donald Meade - Huntington, WV
 Zachary Meador - Ghent, WV
 Adam Meadows - Beaver, WV
 Ashton Meadows - Boone County, WV
 Paila Meadows - Bloomingrose, WV
 Patrick Meadows - Jumping Branch, WV
 Glenn Meadows - Chapmanville, WV
 Nathan Meadows - Dorothy, WV
 Tyler Melson - Barboursville, WV
 Jenny Messinger - Fairmont, WV
 Sharon Methax - Huntington, WV
 Halle Metz - Maysel, WV
 Rhonda Milam - Naoma, WV
 Gabriel Mileto - Barrackville, WV
 Michael Miller - Elkview, WV
 Sam Miller - Martinsburg, WV
 Shawn Miller - Shady Spring WV
 Shawn Miller - Shady Springs, WV
 Thomas Miller - Grant Town, WV
 Wesley Miller - Hurricane, WV
 Alexander Miller - MacArthur, WV
 Briana Mills - Huntington, WV
 Heidi Mills - JonBen, WV
 Jason Milton - Wheeling, WV
 Ashley Mitchell - Cross Lanes, WV
 Jacob Mitchell - Prichard, WV
 Morgan Mitchell - Mullens, WV
 Sara Mitchell - Ripley, WV
 Jonathan Mitchell - Charleston, WV
 Steven Mitchell - Parsons, WV
 Ami Moffo - Beech Bottom, WV
 Heidi Mollohan - Richwood, WV
 Christopher Montville - Clay, WV
 Sedilia Mooney - Racine, WV
 Judy Moore - Charleston, WV
 Marilyn Diann Moore - Dunlow, WV
 Michael Moore - Glenville, WV
 Steven Moore - Wheeling, WV
 Sydnee Moore - Point Pleasant, WV
 Cindy Morales - Branchland, WV
 Deborah Moreland - Beckley, WV
 David Morgan - Fairmont, WV
 Shane Morgan - Paramedic - Clarksburg, WV
 Kim Morrall - Beckley, WV
 Collin Morris - Parkersburg, WV
 Daniel Morris - Ridgeley, WV
 Erin Morris - Fairmont, WV
 Steven Morris - Whitesville, WV
 Tim Morris - Fairmont, WV
 Lindsay Morrison - Ghent, WV
 Mikinsie Morrison - Jumping Branch, WV
 Jason Moses - Huntington, WV
 David Moul - Pineville, WV
 Christopher Mounts - Foster, WV
 Seth Mowder - Wheeling, WV
 Amanda Mowery - Upper Tract, WV
 Andrew Mowery - Upper Tract, WV
 Zachery Moyer - Beverly, WV
 Charles Moyers - Mason WV
 Jerrie Mueller - Huntington, WV
 David Mullins - Shady Spring, WV
 Gretchen Mullins - Logan, WV
 Mary Mullins - Jolo, West Virginia
 Miller Mullins - Morgantown WV
 Patricia Muncy - Kenova, WV
 Beth Munson - Alderson, WV
 Lisa Murray - Franklin WV
 Octavia Murray - Morgantown, WV
 Aarron Myers - Baxter, WV
 Allen Myers - Grant Town, WV
 Chris Myers - Fairmont, WV
 Diane Myers - Rivesville, WV
 Gregory Myers - Spencer, WV

Kristen Myers - Terra Alta, WV
 Skylar Myers - Charleston, WV
 Philip Namlik - Proctor, WV
 Travis Nance - Point Pleasant, WV
 Angel Napier - Wayne, WV
 Landen Napier - Ottawa, WV
 Emilee Naylor - Dunbar, West Virginia
 Christina Neale - Ona, WV
 Danny Neale - Ona, WV
 Kayla Neil - Dixie, WV
 Mathew Neil - Dixie, WV
 Caleb Nelson - Green Spring, WV
 David Nelson - Elkins, WV
 Jim Nelson - Madison, WV
 Tanya Nelson - Upper Tract, WV
 Candace Nelson - Princeton, WV
 Yohann Nenebi - Morgantown, West Virginia
 Alexander Newman - Fairmont, WV
 Jamie Nice - Tyler County WV
 Charli Nicely - Glenwood, WV
 Jared Nichols - Morgantown, WV
 Raealena Nicholson - Blacksville, WV
 Ieland Nida - St. Albans, WV
 Misty Nida - Charleston, WV
 Natalie Nida - St. Albans, WV
 Christopher Nienhaus - Summersville, WV
 Kathy Noble - Fairmont, WV
 Mark Noble - Fairmont, WV
 Harold Norman II - Philippi, WV
 David Nuckols - Charleston, WV
 Rachel Nuckols - Charleston, WV
 Jennifer Nuckols - Chelyan, WV
 Cheryl Nunnery - Danville, WV
 Larry Nunnery III - Madison, WV
 Donna Nutter - Charleston, WV
 Jessica O'Neal - Beckley, WV
 Ashley O'Dell - Idamay, WV
 Bailey Odell - Bloomingrose, WV
 Austin Ohlinger - Mason, WV
 Yvonne Ohlinger - Mason, WV
 Nathan Ohlinger - Leon West Virginia
 Alexia Oliveto - Enterprise, WV
 Roseann Orwig - Fairmont, WV
 Brent Osborne - Beckley, WV
 Lilly Osborne - Elkview, WV
 Allison Osborne - St. Albans, WV
 Melinda Osborne - Beckley, WV
 Trenton Osborne - Huntington, WV
 Holly Ours - Circleville, WV
 Nicole Overfield - Tunnelton, WV
 Lisa Owens - Montrose, WV
 Morgan Pack-Adkins - Ona, WV
 Noelle Paga - Harrison County, WV
 Travis Park - Baker WV
 Deborah Parker - Valley Head, WV
 Gene Parker - Moorefield, WV
 John Parrish - Oak Hill, WV
 Tessa Patrick - Logan, WV
 Sonya Patrick - Ceredo, WV
 Allison Paul - Charleston, WV
 Joel Pauley - WV
 Craig Pauley - Hamlin, WV
 Amanda Payne - Sutton, WV
 Amanda Payne - Jolo, WV
 Kylei Peacock - Lewisburg, WV
 Makayla Pearl - Fairmont, WV
 Kyleigh Pelfrey - Parkersburg, WV
 Michael Pence - Huntington, WV
 Amber Pennington - Newburg, WV
 Jill Perdue - Upshur County, WV
 Joshua Perdue - Charleston, WV
 Erin Perdue - Ceredo, WV
 Jo Perez - Alderson WV
 Devin Perry - Chapmanville, WV
 Jessica Peters - Grafton, West Virginia
 Justin Peters - Grafton, WV
 Lisa Peters - Foster, WV
 Chris Peterson - Wheeling, WV
 Robert Petrice - Coalton, WV
 Kelsie Petticrew - Wayne, WV
 Madison Pettit - Cross Lanes, WV
 Marshelle Pettry - Whitesville, WV
 Krista Phares - Franklin, WV
 Joseph Pharis - Philippi, WV
 Kelli Pharis - Philippi, WV
 Airon Phillips - Summersville, WV
 Amanda Phillips - Elkins, WV
 Brian Phillips - Hurricane, WV
 Kris Phillips - Hurricane, WV
 Mike Phillips - Old fields WV
 Ray Phillips - Dixie, WV
 Tim Phillips - Morgantown, WV
 Brooke Phillips - Alderson, WV
 Jamie Phillips - Hurricane, WV
 Zoey Pierce - Valley Grove, WV
 Christian Pierce - Terra Alta, WV
 Morgan Pierson - Ripley, WV
 Marissa Piff - Oak Hill, WV
 Jacob Pocius - Morgantown, WV
 E. Phillips Polack - Wheeling, WV

Joseph Polgar - Follansbee, WV
 Aaron Pope - Williamson, WV
 Candace Pope - Fairmont, WV
 Roby Pope - Williamson, WV
 Thomas Porcella - Seneca Rocks, WV
 Captain Traci Porter - Clay County WV
 Kauri Porter - Point Pleasant, WV
 Lisa Porter - Logan, WV
 Rebecca Porter - Henderson WV
 Traci Porter (Paramedic) - Charleston, WV
 David Pratt - Moorefield, WV
 Sophia Pratt - Elkview, WV
 Brenda Price - Griffithsville, WV
 Taylor Price - Charleston, WV
 Cherri Price - Madison WV
 Della Prichard – Branchland, WV
 Zachary Pridemore - Bob White, WV
 Aaron Priest - Spencer, WV
 Seth Priode - Barboursville WV
 Tiffany Prior - Sutton, WV
 Jason Prior - Cowen, WV
 Lindsay Pritt - Maysel, WV
 Crystal Putnam - Glenville, WV
 John Qualls - Charleston, WV
 Jeremiah Quattro - Wheeling, WV
 Gloria Angela Queen - Logan, WV
 Jonathan Rabel - Scott Depot, WV
 Stephen Rader - South Charleston, WV
 Helena Radford - Morgantown, WV
 Michaela Raines - High View, WV
 Christopher Ramsey - Alderson, WV
 Hailey Ramsey - Clay County, WV
 Jordan Ramsey - Huntington, WV
 Lou Ramsey - Pennsboro, WV
 Margaret Ramsey - Indore, WV
 Jennifer Randolph - Spencer, WV
 Randy Randolph - Ripley, WV
 Charles Ransom - Wheeling, WV
 Hannah Ranson - Whitesville, WV
 Olivia Ranson - Charleston, WV
 Amy Ratliff - Forest Hill, WV
 Makiah Ratliff - Spencer, WV
 Joshua Rawlings - Eleanor, WV
 Derrick Ray - Milton, WV
 Sean Ray - Scott Depot, WV
 Mariah Redman – Moorefield, WV
 Brett Reed - Charleston, WV
 Zondra Reedy - Moorefield, WV
 Denise Reid - WV
 Lenore Reynolds - Avondale, WV

Samuel Reynolds - Kanawha County, WV
 Holly Reynolds - Iaeger, WV
 Kaytlynn Rhodes - Logan, WV
 Tammy Rhodes - Sutton, WV
 Chalet Richard - Springfield, WV
 Melissa Richards - Nimitz, WV
 Robin Richardson - Grant Town, WV
 Chasity Richmond - Princeton, WV
 Logan Richmond - Princeton, WV
 Tracy Richmond - Moorefield, WV
 Melody Richmond - Lincoln, WV
 Lisa Riddle - Point Pleasant, WV
 Dwayne Rider (Navy Veteran) - Alderson, WV
 David Riffe - Pineville, WV
 Destiny Riffe - Pineville, WV
 Savanna Riggs - Fairmont, WV
 Miranda Riley - Glasgow, WV
 Angela Riley - Rock Cave, WV
 Stephanie Rinehart - Grafton, WV
 Nathan Ritchie - Salem, WV
 Amber Roberts - Bim, WV
 Brock Roberts - Danville, WV
 Marissa Roberts - Spencer, WV
 Olivia Roberts - Hamlin, WV
 Nathan Robinson - Prichard, WV
 Lauren Robinson - St. Albans, WV
 Michelle Robson - Huntington, WV
 Robbie Robson - Ceredo, WV
 Teresa Roby - Belmont, WV
 Emily Roche - Union, WV
 Athena Rodeheaver - Terra Alta WV
 Dana Rodgers - Point Pleasant, WV
 Damion Roe - Charleston, WV
 Kaitlyn Roe - Belle, WV
 Tony Rogers - Sutton, WV
 Eden Rogers - Exchange, WV
 Jennifer Rogers - Exchange, WV
 Tony Rogers - Exchange, WV
 Marvi Rosen - Williamson WV
 Christopher Rosser - Logan, WV
 Andrew Roth - Elkins, WV
 Monica Rouzee - Fairmont, WV
 Jessica Rowe – Davisville, WV
 Leslie Rowe - Kenova, West Virginia
 Amber Rowe - Lewisburg, WV
 Charlene Roy - Bowden, WV
 Tiffany Ruark - Mason, WV
 Donovan Rumberg - Charleston, WV
 Jhaeden Runion - Kanawha City, WV
 Charles Runyon - Madison, WV

Dana Russell - Beckley, WV
 Ingrid Rutherford - Huntington, WV
 Jennifer Rutherford - Huntington, WV
 Lisa Rutherford - Ona, WV
 Paul Rutherford - Huntington, WV
 Michael Ryan - Hamlin, WV
 Alyson S - Marmet, WV
 Brandy S - Summersville, WV
 Samantha S Sailor - Friendly, WV
 Robin Salai - Fairview, WV
 Aaron Samms - Clendenin, WV
 Judith Sampson - Nellis, WV
 Tammy Sartin - Erbacon, WV
 Patti Satterfield - Fairmont, WV
 Charmaine Sauer - Beckley, WV
 Thomas Savasta - Morgantown, WV
 Tonia Scarberry - Mason WV
 Halle Schafer - Charleston, WV
 Jeff Schmoll - Buckhannon, WV
 Richard Schoene - Glen Dale, WV
 Angela Schoolcraft - Marlinton, WV
 David Schoolcraft - Clay, WV
 Amber Schultz - Wayne, WV
 Cindy Schuster - Peterstown WV
 Andrew Schwartz - Farmington, WV
 Scott G Varner - Moundsville, WV
 Morgan Scudero - Madison, WV
 Paul Seamann - Beckley, WV
 Hayden See - Moorefield, WV
 Sarah Selmer - Morgantown. WV
 Latosha Sergent - Kanawha, WV
 Sarah Sergent - Saint Albans, WV
 Jason Sergent - Charleston, WV
 Carol Severe - Gormanian, WV
 Ashley Sharp - Ona, WV
 Janie Shaver - Jumping Branch, WV
 Brian Shears - Elkins, WV
 Courtney Shears - Elkins, WV
 Patty Shears - Elkins, WV
 Todd Shelek - Wheeling, WV
 Randell Sheppard - Logan, WV
 Bryant Sheppard - St. Albans, WV
 Philip Shipley - Wheeling Wv
 Blake Shockey - Capon Bridge, WV
 Angie Short - Frametown, WV
 Lezlie Short - Webster Springs, WV
 Robby Shorter - Princeton, WV
 Maggie Shreve - Clarksburg, WV
 Candida Shriver - South Charleston, WV
 Michael Shukis - Morgantown, WV
 Airyell Shultz - Parkersburg, WV
 Wesley Shuman - Jacksonburg, WV
 Joshua Shuttlesworth - Morgantown, WV
 Ty Sicurella - Wellsburg, WV
 Jimmie Sigmon - Madison, West Virginia
 Josh Silver - Morgantown WV
 Kari Simmons - Elkins, WV
 Kevin Simmons - Lavalette, WV
 Colby Simpson - Ridgeley, WV
 Brittany Sipple - Matewan, WV
 Kambra Sisler - Terra Alta, WV
 Bridget Skidmore - Cross Lanes, WV
 Derek Skinner - Romney, WV
 Tiffany Slate - Logan, WV
 Austin Slie - Wheeling, WV
 Alexia Slone - Charleston, WV
 Tanner Smida - Morgantown, WV
 Adam Smith - Roane County, WV
 Chadwick Smith - Winfield WV
 Charles Smith - Hurricane, WV
 Doug Smith - Foster, WV
 Eric Smith - Follansbee, WV
 Jenifer Smith - Romney WV
 Joseph Smith - Uneeda, WV
 Justin Smith - Pine Grove, WV
 Luke Smith - Barboursville, WV
 Lyndsay Smith - Ronceverte, WV
 Melissa Smith - Princeton and Beckley, WV
 Sandra Smith - Oak Hill, WV
 Tonya Smith - Duck, WV
 Tyler Smith - Jane Lew, WV
 Melissa Smith - Beckley, WV
 Teresa Smith - Foster, WV
 Theodore Smith - Parkersburg, WV
 Albert Smith II - Logan, WV
 Tiffany Smith-Mounts - Foster, WV
 Benjamin Snider - Masontown, WV
 Matthew Snuffer - Beckley, WV
 Sarah Snyder - Buckhannon, WV
 Melissa Southern - Fairmont, WV
 Candaice Sowers - Chapmanville, WV
 Barbara Spade - Culloden, WV
 Cody Sparks - West Virginia
 Elizabeth Sparks - Charleston, WV
 Lauren Sparks - Charleston, WV
 Kimberly Spaulding - Prichard, WV
 Linda Spaulding - Cedar Grove, WV
 Willard Justin Spence - Cyclone, WV
 Haley Spencer - Marlinton, WV
 Kelsyn Spencer - Hartford, WV

LJ Spencer - Leon, West Virginia
 Larry Spencer Jr - Point Pleasant, WV
 Brittany Sperringer - Moundsville, WV
 Ben Spong - Morgantown, WV
 Scout Spong - Morgantown WV
 Qwinn Spong - Morgantown, WV
 Trisha Staats - Elkins, WV
 Makaily Stahl - Petersburg, WV
 Diania Staley - Lavalette, WV
 Katherine Stalnaker - Buckhannon, WV
 Lisa Stalnaker - Talcott WV
 Pam Stamper - Huntington, WV
 Samantha Stamper - Charleston, WV
 Bradley Stanford - Wheeling, WV
 Timothy Stanley - Middlebourne, WV
 Renea Stansbury - Great Cacapon, WV
 Miranda Stapleton - Chapmanville, WV
 Christopher B. Starkey - Weston, WV
 Logan Steenburgh - Charleston, WV
 Samantha Stenger - Lost Creek, WV
 Sara Stephens - Wayne, WV
 Taylor Stevens - Charleston, WV
 Wilma Stevens - Wayne, WV
 Antonetta Stevens - Charleston WV
 Teria Stevens - Charleston, WV
 Donna Steward - Springfield, WV
 Gaven Stewart - Spencer, WV
 Savannah Stewart - Parkersburg, WV
 Tykel Stewart - Keyser, WV
 Gaila Stieringer - Keyser, WV
 Forrest Stiles - Baxter, WV
 Tarah Stiles - Clarksburg, WV
 Lauren Stone - Glasgow, WV
 Marsha Stone - Sweet Springs, WV
 Allan Stoops - Friendly, WV
 Zoe Storey - Elkins, WV
 Arryn Stout - Point Pleasant, WV
 Arthur Stout - West Union, WV
 Liam Stout - Nutter Fort, WV
 Amanda Stover - Grant Town, WV
 Justin Stover - Grant Town WV
 Melinda Stover - Madison, WV
 Stephanie Stover - Beckley WV
 Loretta Stowers-Breedlove - Beckley, WV
 Joseph J Strait - Parsons, WV
 Dawn Streets - Wayne, WV
 Reagan Strother - Charleston, WV
 Heidi Stump - Welch, WV
 Ben Surfac - South Charleston WV
 Pamela Sutphin - Sutton, WV
 Madison Swiger - Fairmont, WV
 Bradley Tackett - Charleston, WV
 Rachel Tackett - Point Pleasant, WV
 Benjamin Tacy - Fairmont, WV
 Kristin Tacy - Fairmont, WV
 Wesley Talbott - Rachel, WV
 Brenda Tanner - Huntington, WV
 Brent Taylor - Culloden, WV
 Emily Taylor - Augusta, WV
 James Taylor - Weston, WV
 Ronnie Taylor - Spencer WV
 Sarah Tenney - Buckhannon, WV
 Susan Terry - Griffithsville, WV
 J Teter - Maysville, WV
 Teresa Teter - Buckhannon, WV
 Renee Thaxton - Charleston, WV
 Madison Thomas - Clay, WV
 Chase Thompson - Williamson, WV
 Garrett Thompson - Hurricane, WV
 John Thompson - Beckley, WV
 Nick Thompson - Morgantown, WV
 Gail Thompson - Milton, WV
 Sue Thompson - Wheeling, WV
 Johnathan Thorne - Masontown, WV
 Jessica Thorp-Nance - Point Pleasant, WV
 David Tice - Beverly, WV
 Robert Tilley - Glen Fork, WV
 Elizabeth Tincher - Charleston, WV
 Brooke Tipton - Beckley, WV
 Makenzy Tolbert - Charleston, WV
 Pamela Tomblin - Ona, WV
 Belinda Toms - Huttonsville, WV
 James Towle - Charleston, WV
 Sara Towle - Charleston, WV
 Ibri Trammell - Huntington, WV
 Benjamin Travis - Salem, WV
 Thomas Trent - Sophia, WV
 Lauren Trenter - Short Gap, WV
 Landon Trickett - Morgantown, WV
 Gail Triplett - Clay, WV
 Jason Triplett - Clay, WV
 Justin Triplett - Charleston, WV
 Kara Triplett - Kanawha County, WV
 Steven Tritapoe, NRP, MCCC - Marlinton, WV
 Edwina Trotto - Fairmont, WV
 Gathan Truman - Bickmore, WV
 Jonathan Truman - Bickmore, WV
 Connie Truman - Clay County, WV
 Tristen Truman - Clay, WV
 John Tucker - Fairmont, WV

Adam Twardoski - Wheeling, WV
 Jonathan Twigg - Wardensville, WV
 Jon Twigg - Wardensville, WV
 Lisa Twigg - Wardensville, WV
 Cole Valentine - Fairmont, WV
 AJ Vance - Dingess, WV
 Darin Vance - Riverton, WV
 Matthew Vance - Charleston, WV
 Savanna Vance - Logan, WV
 Cassandra Vance - Man, WV
 Tori Vance - Logan, WV
 Laura Vandall - Charleston, WV
 Jeff Vandall Sr. - Charleston, WV
 Lea Ann Vandegrift - Fairmont, WV
 Stephanie Vandetta - Fairmont, WV
 Dennis Vankirk - Wheeling, WV
 Jordan VanMeter - Charleston, WV
 Jasmine Vannatter - Itmann, WV
 Hayley Varney - Pineville, WV
 Derek Vaughn - Charleston, WV
 Mike Veltri - Clarksburg, WV
 Linda Vincent - Wardensville, WV
 Larry Vititoe - Huntington, WV
 David Vosler - Huntington, WV
 Brooklyn Waddell - Bridgeport, WV
 Donna Wade - Fairmont, WV
 Nicholas Wade - Folsom, WV
 Richard Wade - Charleston, WV
 Alaina walker - St. Albans, WV
 Emileigh Walker - Clarksburg, WV
 Ethan Walker - Charleston, WV
 Jessica Walker - Charleston, WV
 Lisa Walker - Kerens, WV
 Mike Walker - Cottageville, WV
 Sandy Walker - Cottageville, WV
 Tiffeny Walkowiak - Tyler and Wood
 Counties, WV
 Brealin Wallace - Huntington, WV
 Brandi Walls - St. Albans, WV
 Matthew Walls - Foster, WV
 Melissa Walls - Oceana, WV
 Nicholas Walters - Petersburg, WV
 Brandon Walters - Winfield, WV
 Dakota Ward - Leon, WV
 Jaime Ward - Jumping Branch, WV
 Thomas Ward - Huntington, WV
 Sheryl Ware - Valley Head, WV
 Hunter Wargo - Summersville, WV
 Tiffany Warner - Riverton, WV
 Bria Washington - Charleston, WV
 Adrianna Washington - Charleston, WV
 Axel Watson - Charleston, WV
 Stephanie Watson - Elkview, WV
 Trish Watson - Hamlin, WV
 Deborah Watters - Clothier, WV
 Ali Watterson - Point Pleasant, WV
 Billie Watts - Branchland, WV
 Keith Waycaster - Beckley, WV
 Lisa Waycaster - Beaver WV
 S Weaver - Evans, WV
 Yes Webb - Ranger, WV
 John Webber - WV
 Wesley Webber - White Sulphur Springs, WV
 Elisa Weber - Hillsboro, WV
 Irene Weese - Petersburg, WV
 Nathan R Weese - Fairmont, WV
 Ron Wentz - Charleston, WV
 Winston West - Wheeling, WV
 Katlin Wetterman - Ballard WV
 Forest Weyen - Morgantown, WV
 Christy Wheeler - Kenova, WV
 Jacob Wheeler - Kenova, WV
 Ethan Whisenant - Shady Spring, WV
 Danielle Whistlehunt - Iaeger, WV
 Abbey White - Spencer, WV
 Alicia White - Sutton, WV
 Brian White - Exchange, WV
 Catharine White - WV
 Emily White - Clay, WV
 Patricia White - Clay, WV
 Sarah White - Delbarton WV
 Shannon White - New Richmond, WV
 Shannon White-metz - Hurricane, WV
 Cheryl Whitt - Point Pleasant, WV
 Kaitlin Whittaker - Oak Hill, WV
 Gary Wiechman - Wheeling WV
 Robert Wilburn - Ghent, WV
 Kimberly Wilhelm - Reedsville, WV
 Julia Wilkinson - Ovapa, WV
 Levi Williams - Pineville, WV
 Mark Williams - Lindside, WV
 Melanie Williams - Logan, WV
 Shelby Williams - Huntington, WV
 Dianne Williams - Clear Creek, WV
 Keith Williams - Hundred, WV
 Travis Williams - Pineville, WV
 Autum Williamson - Fairmont, WV
 Matthew Williamson - Dunbar, WV
 Paula Williamson - Logan, WV
 Sheila Williamson - Lewisburg, WV

Angel L Willis - Alderson, WV
 Jessie Willis - Alderson, WV
 Michael Willis - Clay, WV
 Jeremy Wills - Charleston, WV
 Alyssa Wilson - Pineville, WV
 Cassandra Wilson - Dunbar, WV
 Christopher Wilson - Belington, WV
 Jason Wilson - Dunbar, WV
 Jean Anne Wilson - Glasgow, WV
 Laura Wilson - Weston, WV
 Logan Wilson - Morgantown, WV
 Sarah Wilson - Charleston, WV
 Juanita Wilson - Huntington, WV
 Tamera Wimer - Moorefield, WV
 Lisa Wimmer - Davin, WV
 Kenzie Winter - Charleston WV
 Krista Wiseman - Mount Carbon, WV
 Eric Wodesky - Wheeling, WV
 Madison Wolfe - Morgantown, WV
 Michael Wolfe - Morgantown, WV
 Savannah Wolfe - Marion County, WV
 Charles Wood - Davis, WV
 Haley Wood - WV
 Jennifer Wood - Point Pleasant, WV
 Scott Wood - Ceredo, WV
 Judith Wood - Point Pleasant, West Virginia
 MaryJo Woodford - Liberty, West Virginia

Janet Woods - Cowen, WV
 David J Workman - Moorefield, WV
 Melissa Workman - Lewis, WV
 Kenneth Workman - Exchange, WV
 Dusty Wratchford - Moorefield, WV
 Adam Wright - Bolt, WV
 Michael Wright - Jumping Branch, WV
 Tracey Wright - Bluefield, WV
 Lisa Wysong - Hamlin, WV
 Andrew Yahn - Wheeling, WV
 Sandra Yanego - Grant Town, WV
 Zack Yates - Gilbert, WV
 Jeremiah Yoak - Fairmont, WV
 Lee Ann Yoak - Fairmont, WV
 Samantha Yoakum - Mill Creek, WV
 Michelle Yoder - Moorefield, WV
 Brandi York - Oceana WV
 Anna Yost - Fairview, WV
 Braelyn Young - Franklin, WV
 Stephanie Young - Lincoln, WV
 Garrett Young - Charleston, WV
 Clayton Young – Cedar Grove, WV
 Clayton Young III - Charleston, WV
 Jen Zannier - Morgantown, WV
 Julia Zeto - Winfield, WV
 Charles Zukowski - Moundsville, WV
 Tim Zutaut - Beckley, WV

CC: Members of the Legislature
 Tom McCaffery, Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor
 Eric Nelson, Cabinet Secretary, Department of Revenue
 Dr. Arvin Singh, Cabinet Secretary, Department of Health
 Jody Ratliff, Director, Office of EMS

Fund EMS Salary Enhancement

The Office of EMS has recommended the state maintain a minimum of 244 emergency ambulances to aid our communities. But ambulances are more than metal, rubber and flashing lights, they are the EMTs and Paramedics that care for patients and EMS personnel are increasingly in short supply.

According to a survey conducted by the American Ambulance Association of nearly 20,000 employees working at 258 EMS organizations nationally, overall turnover among paramedics and EMTs ranges from 20 to 30 percent annually. With these percentages, ambulance agencies face 100% turnover over a four-year period.

COVID exacerbated this shortage. The pandemic created substantial burnout among EMTs, Paramedics and other personnel. Retirements have increased. With wages rising across all professions, EMS personnel are leaving for other higher paying, lower stress careers. Some are moving to states with better funded EMS systems where they can earn higher wages. Those that remain are frequently refusing to work the overtime hours that were necessary to keep the EMS system functioning even prior to COVID-19.

A career in EMS is difficult and dangerous work. EMTs and Paramedics routinely encounter violent patients particularly when responding to a drug overdose or when caring for patients with behavioral health conditions.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, there are 2,000 EMS professionals injured every year in a violence related incident. The rate of violence related injuries with lost workdays for EMS personnel is 22 times higher than the national average for all workers. More than half of assault-related injuries result in lost work time.

And because of the lack of financial support from state and local governments to fund the cost of readiness and 911 response, ambulance agencies in West Virginia struggle to compensate EMS professionals competitively with neighboring states. Employees can often earn \$2-3 more per hour simply by crossing the border.

UNITED STATES BUREAU FOR LABOR STATISTICS 2022 PARAMEDIC WAGES BY STATE

Paramedics	Mean Hourly Wage	Mean Annual Wage
West Virginia	\$21.55	\$44,290
Kentucky	\$19.92	\$42,850
Maryland	\$29.96	\$62,310
Ohio	\$22.50	\$46,790
Pennsylvania	\$25.41	\$52,850
Virginia	\$24.66	\$51,300

**UNITED STATES BUREAU FOR LABOR STATISTICS 2022
EMT WAGES BY STATE**

Emergency Medical Technicians	Mean Hourly Wage	Mean Annual Wage
West Virginia	\$14.96	\$31,130
Kentucky	\$14.17	\$30,940
Maryland	\$26.01	\$54,110
Ohio	\$17.00	\$35,370
Pennsylvania	\$17.06	\$35,470
Virginia	\$19.12	\$39,770

EMS agencies are not just competing to recruit and retain EMTs and paramedics against other states, they are also competing for a workforce against other better paying health care professions in West Virginia which offer regular hours, holidays off and a more predictable work environment.

**UNITED STATES BUREAU FOR LABOR STATISTICS MAY 2022 STATE
OCCUPATIONAL EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE ESTIMATES - WEST VIRGINIA**

Profession	Mean Hourly Wage	Mean Annual Wage
Registered Nurses	\$34.73	\$72,230
Dental Assistants	\$30.90	\$64,280
Hearing Aid Specialists	\$30.39	\$63,210
Respiratory Therapists	\$29.17	\$60,670
Recreational Therapists	\$22.31	\$46,400
Surgical Assistant	\$21.93	\$45,620
Licensed Practical Nurses	\$21.89	\$45,539
Paramedics	21.55	\$44,290
Pharmacy Technicians	\$16.93	\$35,210
Phlebotomists	\$16.83	\$35,000
EMTs	\$14.96	\$31,130

The EMS Salary Enhancement Fund created by SB 737 in 2023 was a positive first step towards addressing this problem. The fund supported salary enhancements and mental health assistance for EMS personnel in all 55 counties. Finding funding for the program would allow agencies to avoid moral crushing pay reductions in future years.