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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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**HOUSE BILL**  
**No. 1161** Session of  
1997

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INTRODUCED BY PHILLIPS, ITKIN, FICHTER, HERSHEY, YOUNGBLOOD,  
TRELLO AND JAMES, APRIL 3, 1997

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,  
APRIL 3, 1997

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AN ACT

1 Restricting fees an ambulance service may charge for certain  
2 services.

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
4 hereby enacts as follows:

5 Section 1. Short title.

6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Ambulance  
7 Services Fee Restriction Act.

8 Section 2. Definitions.

9 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall  
10 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
11 context clearly indicates otherwise:

12 "Ambulance." Any vehicle which is specifically designed,  
13 constructed or modified and equipped, is used or intended to be  
14 used and is maintained or operated for the purpose of providing  
15 emergency medical care to and transportation of patients. The  
16 term includes advanced or basic life support vehicles that may  
17 or may not transport patients.

1 "Ambulance service." An entity which regularly engages in  
2 the business or service of providing emergency medical care and  
3 transportation of patients within this Commonwealth. The term  
4 includes mobile advanced life support services that may or may  
5 not transport patients.

6 "Emergency." A combination of circumstances resulting in a  
7 need for immediate medical intervention.

8 "Emergency medical services." The services utilized in  
9 responding to the needs of an individual for immediate medical  
10 care in order to prevent loss of life or aggravation of  
11 physiological or psychological illness or injury.

#### 12 Section 3. Restrictions.

13 No ambulance service may charge or collect a fee in excess of  
14 \$150 for transporting a patient or responding to any emergency  
15 call when the call does not exceed 20 miles one way from the  
16 location of the ambulance service.

#### 17 Section 4. Unfair trade practices.

18 Any violation of this act constitutes a violation of the act  
19 of December 17, 1968 (P.L.1224, No.387), known as the Unfair  
20 Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law.

#### 21 Section 5. Effective date.

22 This act shall take effect immediately.