Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

Act 720 of the Regular Session

1	State of Arkansas As Engrossed: S3/20/07	
2	86th General Assembly A B111	
3	Regular Session, 2007	SENATE BILL 895
4		
5	By: Senator Horn	
6	By: Representatives Wells, Gaskill	
7		
8		
9	For An Act To Be Entit	led
10	AN ACT TO STUDY THE CREATION OF THE	ARKANSAS
11	PATIENT CHOICE ACT; TO STUDY METHOD	OS FOR
12	PROVIDING ARKANSAS PATIENTS MORE CH	OICE IN THEIR
13	PRESCRIPTION DRUG BUYING PURCHASES	BY REGULATING
14	THE DISPENSING OF PRESCRIPTION DRUG	SS BY CERTAIN
15	MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS; AND FOR OTHE	ER PURPOSES.
16		
17	Subtitle	
18	AN ACT TO STUDY THE CREATION OF	THE
19	ARKANSAS PATIENT CHOICE ACT; AND) TO
20	PROVIDE ARKANSAS PATIENTS MORE C	CHOICE IN
21	THEIR PRESCRIPTION DRUG PURCHASE	ES.
22		
23		
24	BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STAT	E OF ARKANSAS:
25		
26	Section 1. <u>Purpose.</u>	
27	The purposes of this act are to:	
28	(1) Study the practice of the dispen-	sing of prescription drugs
29	by physicians and dentists including without limi	tation:
30	(A) The regulatory schemes in	other states;
31	(B) The practices of Arkansas	dentists who currently
32	dispense prescription drugs;	
33	(C) The practices of companies	that provide prepackaged
34	drugs; and	
35	(D) A system of support for ph	ysicians and dentists within



1	a framework of safety and accountability;	
2	(2) Develop an effective regulatory scheme that would protect	
3	the public safety and ensure accountability in the drug distribution system;	
4	<u>and</u>	
5	(3) Study the parameters set forth in federal law in the	
6	Robinson-Patman Act that would limit the use of pharmacy permits by non-	
7	profit, tax exempt, or governmentally funded hospitals in Arkansas.	
8		
9	Section 2. Legislative Task Force on Patient Choice — Creation —	
10	<u>Membership - Duties.</u>	
11	(a) The Legislative Task Force on Patient Choice is created to be	
12	composed of the following members:	
13	(1)(A) Two (2) members of the Senate Interim Committee on Public	
14	Health, Welfare, and Labor appointed by the chair of the of the Senate	
15	Interim Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor.	
16	(B) The chair of the Senate Interim Committee on Public	
17	Health, Welfare, and Labor shall select one (1) of the two (2) members as the	
18	Senate cochair;	
19	(2)(A) Two (2) members of the House Interim Committee on Public	
20	Health, Welfare, and Labor appointed by the chair of the committee.	
21	(B) The chair shall select one (1) of the two (2) members	
22	as the House cochair;	
23	(3) One (1) member as a representative of the Arkansas Dental	
24	Association;	
25	(4) One (1) member as a representative of the Arkansas Medical	
26	Society;	
27	(5) One (1) member as a representative of the Arkansas Pharmacy	
28	Association;	
29	(6) One (1) member from a non-profit hospital as a	
30	representative of the Arkansas Hospital Association;	
31	(7) One (1) member who represents a company that provides	
32	prepackaged prescription drugs for dispensing by doctors appointed by the	
33	President Pro Tempore of the Senate;	
34	(8) One (1) consumer member appointed by the Speaker of the	
35	House of Representatives; and	
36	(9) One (1) consumer member appointed by the Governor.	

1	(b) The task force shall:
2	(1) Be appointed no later than July 1, 2007;
3	(2) Receive staff and clerical support from the Legislative
4	Council; and
5	(3) Report its findings and regulatory plan to the Legislative
6	Council by November 1, 2008.
7	(c) The task force shall be co-chaired by members selected as co-
8	chairs by the chairs of the Senate and House Interim Committees on Public
9	Health, Welfare and Labor.
10	(d)(1) A majority of the membership of the task force shall constitute
11	a quorum.
12	(2) A majority vote of the members present shall be required for
13	any action of the task force.
14	(e) Vacancies on the task force due to death, resignation, or other
15	causes shall be filled in the same manner as is provided in this act for
16	initial appointments.
17	(f) Task force meetings shall be held at the State Capitol and at
18	other locations as designated by the task force chairs.
19	(g) Legislative members shall be entitled to reimbursement for
20	expenses and per diem at the same rate and from the same source as provided
21	by law for members of the General Assembly attending meetings of interim
22	committees.
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24	SECTION 3. The task force shall expire on January 1, 2009.
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26	/s/ Horn
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28	APPROVED: 3/30/2007
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