

Hall of the House of Representatives
84th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2003
Amendment Form

Subtitle of House Bill No. 2273

"AN ACT TO GRANT HOSPITALS, CREDENTIALING ORGANIZATIONS, AND
INSURANCE COMPANIES THE OPTION OF UTILIZING THE CENTRALIZED
CREDENTIALING VERIFICATION SERVICE, OR OTHER APPROPRIATE
ORGANIZATIONS."

Amendment No. 2 to House Bill No. 2273.

Amend House Bill No. 2273 as engrossed, H3/28/03:

Page 1, line 25, delete "17-95-107(d)(1) is" and substitute "17-95-107(d)(1) and (2), concerning credentialing organizations for physicians, are"

AND

Page 1, delete line 36 and substitute the following
"organization.

(2)(A) The board shall promulgate regulations establishing a credentialing information system, and the regulations shall indicate the procedures for collection and release of credentialing information under this section.

(B) The regulations shall require that before July 1, 2003, the process of recredentialing a physician shall be completed within thirty (30) business days, unless circumstances beyond the control of the board make completion of the process within thirty (30) business days impossible or unduly burdensome.

(C) If the credentialing process is not completed within the required time and the board does not provide an adequate explanation for failing to meet the time requirement, the fee for the credentialing process shall be refunded to the physician.

(D) If disagreements arise over a claim that circumstances have made timely completion impossible or unduly burdensome, the disagreement shall be presented to the advisory committee established under subdivision(d)(3) of this section and the decision of the advisory committee shall be final.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 17-95-107(d)(7), concerning credentialing organizations for physicians, is amended to read as follows:

(7)(A) The board may charge credentialing organizations a



reasonable fee for the use of the credentialing service as established by rule and regulation.

(B) The fee shall be set in consultation with the advisory committee and shall be set at such a rate as will reimburse the board, when added to the credentialing assessments collected from physicians, for the cost of maintaining the credentialing information system.

(C) The board's costs may not exceed the fees charged by private vendors with a comparable statewide credentialing service.

(D) Each physician licensee of the board will pay a credentialing fee of one hundred dollars (\$100) per year at the time of the renewal of the license for the years 2000 and 2001.

(E) For the year 2002 and each year thereafter, the board may assess each physician licensee an amount not to exceed ~~twenty five dollars (\$25.00)~~ one hundred dollars (\$100) per year to offset the cost for providing the credentialing service. ~~Physicians shall not be charged a credentialing fee by a credentialing organization.~~

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 17-95-107, concerning credentialing organizations for physicians, is amended to additional subsections to read as follows:

(h) The board shall report quarterly to the House and Senate Interim Committees on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor concerning the credentialing process established in this section.

SECTION 4. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the regulations required by this act must be in effect before July 1, 2003; that the Arkansas State Medical Board must have sufficient time to prepare the regulations required under this act; that the continuing practice of the state's physicians may be adversely affected if this act does not go into effect immediately. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

(1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

(2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill; or

(3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto."

The Amendment was read _____
By: Representative Biggs
MGF/JGR - 040120030930
JGR643

Chief Clerk