

1 **State of Arkansas**
2 **78th General Assembly**
3 **Regular Session, 1991**

A Bill

SENATE BILL

4 **By: Senators Bookout and Edwards**

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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 20-77-201, ET SEQ, TO
9 CHANGE THE NAME OF THE INDIGENT HEALTH CARE ADVISORY
10 COUNCIL TO THE ARKANSAS HEALTH CARE ACCESS COUNCIL; TO SET
11 FORTH THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE ARKANSAS HEALTH CARE
12 ACCESS COUNCIL; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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16 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 20-77-201 is hereby amended to read as
17 follows:

18 "20-77-201. Establishment. Recognizing the need to provide reasonable
19 access to health care services for all segments of our statepopulation, there
20 is established the Arkansas Health Care Access Program."

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22 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code 20-77-202 is hereby amended to read as
23 follows:

24 "20-77-202. Arkansas Health Care Access Council .

25 (a) There is established the Arkansas Health Care Access Council which
26 shall coordinate and give advice and assistance to the Health Care Access
27 Program.

28 (b) (1) There shall be seventeen (17) members of the Health Care Access
29 Council plus two (2) ex-officio members, all to be appointed by the Governor:

30 (A) A representative of the Arkansas Medical Society;

31 (B) A representative of the Arkansas Hospital Association;

32 (C) A representative of the Arkansas Medical, Dental,
33 Pharmacist Association;

34 (D) A representative of the Community Health Center;

35 (E) Four (4) members at large;

1 (F) The Chancellor at the University of Arkansas for
2 Medical Sciences;

3 (G) A representative of the Health Insurance Industry;

4 (H) The co-chairmen of the Joint Interim Committee on
5 Public Health, Welfare, and Labor;

6 (I) The Director of the Department of Human Services;

7 (J) The Director of the Department of Health;

8 (K) The Director of the State Health Planning and
9 Development Agency;

10 (L) A representative of the private industry or business
11 community; and

12 (M) The Director of the State Department of Insurance.

13 (2) The two (2) ex-officio members shall be:

14 (A) The Chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and
15 Gynecology at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences; and

16 (B) The Chairman, Department of Pediatrics at the
17 University of Medical Sciences/Arkansas Children's Hospital.

18 (3) The members of the Council shall be reimbursed for actual and
19 necessary expenses for meals, lodging, and mileage for travel in accordance
20 with the procedures and standards provided by law or regulation for official
21 travel by state employees in the performance of their duties.

22 (c) (1) The Council shall meet at least four (4) times during the year.

23 (2) The Council shall elect from its membership a chairman and a
24 vice chairman who may call meetings as they deem necessary to carry out the
25 duties and responsibilities of the Council.

26 (3) The Council may create such committees and task forces with
27 such membership from the Council and from the public at large as they deem
28 necessary to carry out the purposes of this subchapter."
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30 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code 20-77-203 is hereby amended to read as
31 follows:

32 "20-77-203. Administration by Department of Human Services.

33 It is the intent of this subchapter that the Department of Human
34 Services shall be responsible for administering the Health Care Access Program
35 and that the department, working with the Health Care Access Council, develop

1 and administer the Health Care Access Program to achieve the following
2 objectives:

3 (1) To improve rural health care in Arkansas; and

4 (2) On or about April 1, 1991, the Health Care Access Council shall
5 have prepared a plan for aggressive outreach for all children to be immunized;
6 and such outreach shall take into consideration objections to immunizations on
7 religious grounds; and

8 (3) On or about August 1, 1991, the Health Care Access Council shall
9 present to the Governor and the Legislature a plan for the public/private
10 partnership initiative to create a medical home for all children under age one
11 (1) for implementation by January 1, 1992; and

12 (4) By December 31, 1992, the State will, under the guidance of the
13 Health Care Access Council, provide EPSDT screening to a significantly
14 increased number of Medicaid-insured children as well as children on other low
15 income assistance programs; and

16 (5) On or about April 1, 1992, a plan shall be prepared and submitted
17 to the Governor by the Health Care Access Council to be phased in, by the year
18 2000, universal health coverage with an emphasis on the preventive and primary
19 care for all Arkansas children under the age of sixteen (16) years, regardless
20 of family income. This plan shall be presented for the consideration of the
21 Arkansas General Assembly at the General Assembly's 1993 regular session."
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23 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code 20-77-204 is hereby amended to read as
24 follows:

25 "20-77-204. Health Care Access Investment Trust Fund -- Health Care
26 Access Fund.

27 (a) (1) There is established on the books of the State Treasurer, the
28 State Auditor, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State the Health Care
29 Access Investment Trust Fund.

30 (2) There shall be deposited in the fund, from time to time, such
31 other monies as may be received by the state from gifts, grants, donations,
32 from public or private sources, or as may be provided therefore by the General
33 Assembly. The money shall be invested by the State Board of Finance in such
34 a manner that the principal and interest payments resulting from the
35 investment thereof may be transferred to the Health Care Access Fund of the

1 Department of Human Services, established in subsection (c) of this section,
2 as needed and in such amounts as determined by the Arkansas Health Care Access
3 Council, to be used for the support of the Health Care Access Program.

4 (b) It is the intent of this section that the interest earned from the
5 investment of funds deposited in the Health Care Access Investment Trust Fund,
6 including such portion of the principal thereof as may be required, and
7 transferred to the Health Care Access Fund of the Department of Human Services
8 upon authorization of the Arkansas Health Care Access Council, shall be
9 deposited therein solely for the benefit of the Health Care Access Program as
10 provided in this subchapter.

11 (c) (1) There is established on the books of the State Treasurer, the
12 State Auditor, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State the Health Care
13 Access Fund into which monies will be transferred from time to time, from
14 principal and interest monies in the Health Care Access Investment Fund, upon
15 authorization of the Arkansas Health Care Access Council, and into which shall
16 be deposited such other funds as may be received from gifts, grants,
17 donations, or from public or private sources, or as may be provided by the
18 General Assembly.

19 (2) The money shall be used to support the Health Care Access
20 Program established under this subchapter. The Department of Human Services
21 shall give priority, to the extent possible, in the expenditure of monies
22 available through the Health Care Access Fund to gain the benefit of matching
23 funds available for health care."

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25 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code 20-77-205 is hereby amended to read as
26 follows:

27 "20-77-205. Funding.

28 (a) Funding for this program shall be derived from gifts, grants, and
29 donations, and other funds as may be provided by the General Assembly, and any
30 federal matching funds generated by the program.

31 (b) It is further the intent of this subchapter that the funds
32 appropriated by the General Assembly for the purpose of funding the Health
33 Care Access Program be used where appropriate and practical to match federal
34 funding sources to enhance the total available funding for the operation of
35 the Health Care Access Program."

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SECTION 6. CODE. All provisions of this Act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 7. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE. Any provision of this Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the Act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 8. GENERAL REPEALER. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.