

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.

1 State of Arkansas
2 84th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2003

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2241

4
5 By: Representative Napper
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7

For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
10 ARKANSAS HEALTH DATA INITIATIVE; AND FOR OTHER
11 PURPOSES.
12

Subtitle

13
14 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT
15 OF THE ARKANSAS HEALTH DATA INITIATIVE.
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17

18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
19

20 SECTION 1. The General Assembly finds and determines that there is a
21 lack of Arkansas specific information and data to guide officials responsible
22 for policy decisions, and that making this data readily available to decision
23 makers is essential to the creation of effective health policy for the state.
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25 SECTION 2. (a)(1) The Director of the Arkansas Center for Health
26 Improvement shall establish and maintain a program to access health data to
27 be known as the "Arkansas Health Data Initiative".

28 (2) The Arkansas Health Data Initiative shall be administered
29 and maintained within the Arkansas Center for Health Improvement.

30 (b) The purpose of the Arkansas Health Data Initiative is to serve as
31 a database of state and federal health information to inform Arkansas health
32 policy officials.
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34 SECTION 3. (a) To facilitate the creation and operation of the
35 Arkansas Health Data Initiative, all state agencies, state departments, their
36 officers, staff, and respective subcontractors shall ensure that the Arkansas



1 Center for Health Improvement shall have full and complete access to all
 2 health related data.

3 (b) The data includes, but is not limited to the following:

4 (1) Public health databases;

5 (2) Health care utilization data;

6 (3) Financial data related to the procurement of health or
 7 health care related services; and

8 (4) Data supplied as part of mandated reporting requirements to
 9 state agencies by entities, including, but not limited to, other state
 10 agencies and departments, nonstate entities, external vendors, and other
 11 entities as identified by the Arkansas Health Data Initiative.

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 13 SECTION 4. The Director of the Arkansas Center for Health Improvement
 14 shall promulgate rules for the operation of the Arkansas Health Data
 15 Initiative to ensure that:

16 (1) Patient confidentiality is maintained;

17 (2) All data receipt and transmission are conducted in a manner
 18 consistent with applicable federal Health Insurance Portability and
 19 Accountability Act of 1996 requirements;

20 (3) Access to the Health Data Initiative will be restricted to
 21 prevent inappropriate use of collected information for proprietary gain and
 22 other uses that do not promote the general public good; and

23 (4) Health policy findings resulting from use of the Arkansas
 24 Health Data Initiative are made available to interested parties and the
 25 general public as required subject to confidentiality requirements and the
 26 mandates of the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
 27 of 1996.

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 29 SECTION 5. (a) The Director of the Arkansas Center for Health
 30 Improvement or his or her designate, shall make reports as requested on the
 31 activities of the Arkansas Health Data Initiative to the Joint Interim
 32 Committee on Health Insurance and Prescription Drugs.

33 (b)(1) Should the Joint Interim Committee on Health Insurance and
 34 Prescription Drugs not exist, there shall be established an Arkansas Health
 35 Data Initiative Commission.

36 (2) The purpose of this commission is to provide oversight to

1 the activities of the Arkansas Health Data Initiative.

2 (3) Members of this committee shall be appointed by the Speaker
3 of the House and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate in equal numbers as
4 follows:

5 (A) Two (2) representatives of entities that collect data;

6 (B) Two (2) representatives of entities that utilize data;

7 and

8 (C) Two (2) representatives of the Arkansas Department of
9 Human Services Medicaid Division.

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11 SECTION 6. The Department of Information Services, the Department of
12 Finance and Administration, the Department of Health, the Department of Human
13 Services, Insurance Department, and all other appropriate departments,
14 agencies, subcontractors, and officers shall promulgate rules to implement
15 this act.

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