

1 State of Arkansas
2 91st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2017
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1813

5 By: Representative Hillman
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE TREATMENT OF RABIES UNDER
9 THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAW; TO REVISE THE
10 DEFINITION OF "OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE" UNDER THE
11 WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAW; TO AMEND PORTIONS OF THE
12 WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAW THAT RESULTED FROM
13 INITIATED MEASURE 1948, NO. 4; AND FOR OTHER
14 PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

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18 TO PROVIDE FOR THE TREATMENT OF RABIES
19 UNDER THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAW; AND
20 TO AMEND PORTIONS OF THE WORKERS'
21 COMPENSATION LAW THAT RESULTED FROM
22 INITIATED MEASURE 1948, NO. 4.
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25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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27 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 11-9-508(a), concerning the liability of an
28 employer for medical services and supplies under the Workers' Compensation
29 Law, is amended to read as follows:

30 (a)(1) The employer shall promptly provide for an injured employee
31 such medical, surgical, hospital, chiropractic, optometric, podiatric, and
32 nursing services and medicine, crutches, ambulatory devices, artificial
33 limbs, eyeglasses, contact lenses, hearing aids, and other apparatus as may
34 be reasonably necessary in connection with the injury received by the
35 employee.

36 (2)(A) Rabies is a highly contagious and potentially deadly



1 infectious disease and exposure to rabies and the risk of infection is the
2 direct result of an injury caused by the bite of a rabies-infected animal
3 under this section.

4 (B)(i) An employer shall promptly provide reasonably
5 necessary medical treatment to an injured employee who is exposed to rabies
6 as described in subdivision (a)(2)(A) of this section.

7 (ii) As used in subdivision (a)(2)(B)(i) of this
8 section, "reasonably necessary medical treatment" means without limitation
9 any diagnostic and preventive measures prescribed for detection, diagnosis,
10 and prevention of rabies.

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