

1 INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2023-103

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3 REQUESTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND
4 LABOR STUDY THE TOTAL ARKANSAS HEALTHCARE EXPENDITURES ON PRIMARY
5 CARE AND RECOMMEND FURTHER ACTION TO ENSURE PRIMARY CARE
6 SUSTAINABILITY.

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8 WHEREAS, data demonstrates that a focus on primary care can improve
9 patient health through cost effectiveness and that there is a strong fiscal
10 and business case for preventative care; and

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12 WHEREAS, investing early in preventative care can reduce the need for
13 future complex and expensive treatments, saving money in the healthcare
14 system in the long run; and

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16 WHEREAS, studies show that one (1) or more primary care visits per year
17 is associated with increased likelihood of specific evidence-based preventive
18 care interventions that improve longitudinal health outcomes and decrease
19 healthcare costs, and that increasing efforts to track and increase the
20 number of primary care visits by clinics and healthcare systems may improve
21 patient compliance with select preventive measures; and

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23 WHEREAS, further studies show associations between primary care and
24 high-value care among both healthcare systems and Medicare fee-for-service
25 populations that lead to higher continuity of care, lower costs, and lower
26 hospitalization rates; and

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28 WHEREAS, spending on primary care remains, as a proportion of all
29 healthcare spending, significantly below desired rates in the United States;
30 and

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32 WHEREAS, Arkansas does not have state-specific healthcare spending
33 information to ensure the long term sustainability and efficacy of healthcare
34 in Arkansas through primary care investment,

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36 NOW THEREFORE,

1 BE IT PROPOSED BY THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND LABOR
2 OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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4 THAT the Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor study
5 the amount of healthcare money expended on primary care providers and on
6 primary care services across the state through data maintained in the
7 Arkansas Healthcare Transparency Initiative's All-Payer Claims Database, as
8 governed by the State Insurance Department and determine how to best support
9 primary care physicians in Arkansas to reduce overall costs and improve the
10 health of all Arkansans.

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15 Respectfully submitted,

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19 Senator Missy Irvin

20 District 24

21 Prepared by: JMB/JMB
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