State of Arkansas As Engrossed: S4/8/13
89th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2013
SENATE BILL 888

By: Senators Bledsoe, Irvin
By: Representative Ferguson

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE PARITY FOR MAMMOGRAPHY SERVICES
REIMBURSEMENT; TO REQUIRE PAYMENT OF AT LEAST THE
MEDICARE RELATIVE VALUE UNIT RATE FOR DIGITAL
MAMMOGRAPHY UNTIL A CPT CODE IS ESTABLISHED; AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle
TO PROVIDE PARITY FOR MAMMOGRAPHY
SERVICES REIMBURSEMENT.

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

SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative findings.
The General Assembly finds that:
(a) The General Assembly finds that:
(1) Health insurance payments to healthcare providers are
primarily driven by Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes;
(2) If a Current Procedural Terminology code is not available
for a healthcare procedure, temporary Healthcare Common Procedure Coding
System (HCPCS) G codes are used until a Current Procedural Terminology code
is established;
(3) In the struggle against breast cancer, digital mammography
provides a powerful proven tool for early detection of disease, facilitating
early intervention and increasing the chances for a complete recovery; and
(4) There is limited access to digital mammography service
particularly in rural areas of the state because of the significant increase
in the cost of equipment and time and the lack of adjustment of payment.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 23-79-140, concerning insurance coverage for mammograms, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

(e) After January 1, 2014, an accident and health insurance company, hospital service corporation, health maintenance organization, or other accident and health insurance provider shall use the Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System G code for digital mammography and reimburse those codes at a minimum of one and five tenths (1.5) times the Medicare reimbursement rate for those codes until a Current Procedural Terminology code is established.

/s/Bledsoe

APPROVED: 04/16/2013