

"AN ACT TO AMEND SUBSECTION (N) OF SECTION 12 OF ACT 482 OF 1979 AS AMENDED, [ARK. STATS. 14-240(N)] TO ADD AN ADDITIONAL PARAGRAPH AT THE END THEREOF TO SPECIFICALLY EXEMPT FROM THE STATE PURCHASING LAW MEDICAL ITEMS USED FOR THE TREATMENT AND DIAGNOSIS OF PATIENTS IF PROCURED THROUGH A GROUP PURCHASING ENTITY SERVING OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTIONS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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

SECTION 1. Subsection (N) of Section 12 of Act 482 of 1979 as amended, the same being Arkansas Statutes 14-240(N), is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof a new paragraph to read as follows:

"(26) Medical items used for the treatment and diagnosis of patients if procured through a group purchasing entity serving other public health institutions when substantial savings are documented annually on a line item basis by the State Agency to the Director of State Purchasing and approved in writing by the Director of State Purchasing. All fees and/or charges by the group purchasing entity and/or suppliers to the State or State Agency are to be prorated to determine each line item's actual cost".

SECTION 2. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. EMERGENCY. It is hereby found and determined by the General Assembly that the State Purchasing Law currently contains no exemption for medical items used for the treatment and diagnosis of patients and purchased through a group purchasing entity; that considerable savings can be effected in many instances if such medical items are exempt from the State Purchasing Law; that this Act is designed to provide such exemption and should be given effect immediately. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act being necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

APPROVED: April 14, 1987

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