

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  
4

# A Bill

Act 1392 of 2003  
HOUSE BILL 2240

5 By: Representative Napper  
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## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE  
10 ON HEALTH INSURANCE AND PRESCRIPTION DRUGS; AND  
11 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
12

## Subtitle

13 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE JOINT INTERIM  
14 COMMITTEE ON HEALTH INSURANCE AND  
15 PRESCRIPTION DRUGS.  
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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21 SECTION 1. (a) There is established the Joint Interim Committee on  
22 Health Insurance and Prescription Drugs as a joint interim committee of the  
23 General Assembly.

24 (b) The committee shall be composed of the following voting members:

25 (1) Two (2) members of the House Interim Committee on Insurance  
26 and Commerce appointed by the chair of the committee;

27 (2) Two (2) members of the Senate Interim Committee on Insurance  
28 and Commerce appointed by the chair of the committee;

29 (3) Two (2) members of the House Interim Committee on Public  
30 Health, Welfare, and Labor appointed by the chair of the committee;

31 (4) Two (2) members of the Senate Interim Committee on Public  
32 Health, Welfare, and Labor appointed by the chair of the committee;

33 (5) Two (2) members of the House of Representatives appointed by  
34 the Speaker of the House; and

35 (6) Two (2) members of the Senate appointed by the President Pro  
36 Tempore of the Senate.



1           (c)(1) The Speaker of the House shall designate one (1) House of  
 2 Representatives member of the committee as a cochair of the committee.

3           (2) The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall designate one  
 4 (1) Senate member of the committee as a cochair of the committee.

5           (d) A quorum for transacting business shall be a majority of the  
 6 legislator members of the committee.

7           (e) The two (2) cochairs shall preside at each meeting of the  
 8 committee or may rotate from meeting to meeting as presiding officers as they  
 9 determine.

10          (f) The committee shall meet upon call of the cochairs, upon call by a  
 11 majority of its legislator members.

12          (g) Vacancies shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term  
 13 in the same manner as the original appointment.

14          (h) Legislator members of the committee shall be entitled to  
 15 reimbursement for expenses and per diem at the same rate and from the same  
 16 source as provided by law for members of the General Assembly attending  
 17 meetings of interim committees.

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 19          SECTION 2. (a) The cochairs of the Joint Interim Committee on Health  
 20 Insurance and Prescription Drugs may jointly appoint nonlegislators as  
 21 advisory members of the committee.

22          (b) The advisory members of the committee shall be privileged to  
 23 attend all meetings of the committee and shall enjoy the full rights of  
 24 membership on the committee, including the right to discuss matters pending  
 25 before the committee and to participate in debate of issues before the  
 26 commission, but shall not cast a vote on any issue pending before the  
 27 committee.

28          (c) The terms of the advisory members shall expire on December 31 of  
 29 each even numbered year.

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 31          SECTION 3. The Joint Interim Committee on Health Insurance and  
 32 Prescription Drugs shall study:

33                 (1) Mandated and optional health insurance benefits, gaps in  
 34 coverage, and the effect on Arkansans;

35                 (2) Prescription drug pricing structures and cost containment  
 36 strategies;

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- (3) Quality of healthcare received by Arkansans;
- (4) Reports detailing the activity of the Arkansas Safety Net Benefit Program; and
- (5) Reports received from the Arkansas Health Data Initiative.

APPROVED: 4/15/2003