

1 State of Arkansas
2 88th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2011
4

As Engrossed: H3/17/11 H3/23/11

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1604

5 By: Representative Murdock
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO TREATMENT FOR SICKLE CELL
9 ANEMIA IN ARKANSAS; TO REDUCE OVERALL HEALTH CARE
10 COSTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

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13 AN ACT TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO TREATMENT FOR
14 SICKLE CELL ANEMIA IN ARKANSAS AND TO
15 REDUCE OVERALL HEALTH CARE COSTS.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 64, Subchapter 4 is amended
22 to add an additional section read as follows:

23 6-64-419. Adult Sickle Cell Clinic of the University of Arkansas for
24 Medical Sciences.

25 (a)(1) The Adult Sickle Cell Clinic of the University of Arkansas for
26 Medical Sciences is created.

27 (2) The clinic shall be a comprehensive clinic at which adults
28 in Arkansas with sickle cell anemia may receive specialty care, including
29 without limitation:

30 (A) Advanced, specialized health care;

31 (B) Preventive health care; and

32 (C) Local health care provider support.

33 (b) The clinic shall provide services, including without limitation:

34 (1)(A) An annual visit for comprehensive diagnosis and treatment
35 for adult patients with sickle cell anemia from all over the state.

36 (B) A patient with more severe complications from sickle



1 cell anemia may receive more frequent treatment as needed;

2 (2)(A) On the basis of each comprehensive visit under
3 subdivision (b)(1) of this section, a care plan for that patient is developed
4 to serve as a blueprint for the patient's medical care throughout the year.

5 (B) For acute medical events, treatment under this section
6 shall be based on the care plan created under subdivision (b)(2)(A) of this
7 section as the guide for management of sickle cell anemia and complications
8 of sickle cell anemia; and

9 (3) Designing a training program regarding sickle cell anemia
10 and complications of sickle cell anemia for:

11 (A) Physicians, nurses, and social workers throughout the
12 state;

13 (B) Medical students and residents;

14 (C) Health care providers; and

15 (D) Health care provider students.

16 (4) Through the Center for Distance Health of the University of
17 Arkansas for Medical Science, training and case consultation with health care
18 providers across the state; and

19 (5) A program to:

20 (A) Track adult patients with sickle cell anemia; and

21 (B) Measure the effectiveness of the clinic.

22 (c)(1) The clinic shall make staff personnel available to primary care
23 physicians and medical staff of area health education centers for
24 consultation regarding sickle cell anemia and complications of sickle cell
25 anemia as needed.

26 (2) A nurse practitioner employed in this clinic shall be
27 available twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week to receive
28 and respond to telephone calls from physicians or patients regarding sickle
29 cell anemia and complications of sickle cell anemia.

30 (3) A social worker shall assist patients with sickle cell
31 anemia and their families in finding ways to meet the needs of the patient
32 and his or her family, including without limitation:

33 (A) Health-related expenses not covered by insurance
34 plans;

35 (B) Transportation costs;

36 (C) Employment options; and

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(D) Social and emotional support.

(4) A grassroots community coordinator shall connect the clinic to other health care providers around the state and help connect patients with the clinic.

/s/Murdock

APPROVED: 04/01/2011