For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO ELIMINATE THE RECORD MAINTENANCE FEE FOR VISITS TO LOCAL HEALTH UNITS; TO AMEND THE STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT BUILDING AND LOCAL GRANT TRUST FUND; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO ELIMINATE THE RECORD MAINTENANCE FEE FOR VISITS TO LOCAL HEALTH UNITS.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 20-7-127 is repealed.

20-7-127. Fees for visits to local health units.

(a)(1) There is imposed a fee of two dollars ($2.00) for each client visit to a local health unit. The State Board of Health may assess any client a single charge of ten dollars ($10.00) to cover all visits by the client for a period of one (1) year, which charge shall be in lieu of the charge of two dollars ($2.00) per visit provided in this subdivision (a)(1).

(2) Fees levied by the board under this section shall be collected by the respective local health units from each client who is financially able to pay the fee.

(b) If revenue from these fees is inadequate to enable local health units to continue the provision of essential services and the expansion and improvement of local health unit facilities in the state, the board, with the review and comment of the Legislative Council, may adopt appropriate rules and regulations to increase the client visit fee imposed in subsection (a) of this section to an amount not to exceed five dollars ($5.00) per client visit.

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

Act 206 of the Regular Session
or a twenty-five dollar single annual charge and prescribe guidelines for the
assessment, collection, and remittance of those fees.

(c)(1) Funds derived from the fees levied under this section shall be
collected by the various local health units. The funds shall be deposited
into a local bank account and remitted monthly to the Department of Health.

(2)(A) The department shall deposit all the funds received from
local health units into the State Treasury, where they shall be credited to
the State Health Department Building and Local Grant Trust Fund.

(B) Any funds derived from the collection of client visit
fees in excess of six hundred thousand dollars ($600,000) in any fiscal year
shall be transferred to the Public Health Fund by the Chief Fiscal Officer of
the State upon the request of the Director of the Department of Health.

(3) Subject to such rules and regulations as may be implemented
by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, the disbursing officers for the
department may transfer all remaining unexpended funds, as certified by the
Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, to be carried forward and made available
for expenditure for the same purposes for any following fiscal year.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 20-7-129(c), concerning reimbursement for
certain medical supplies or services, is amended to read as follows:

(c)(1) Funds derived from the fees shall be used exclusively for the
purchase of medical supplies or services necessary to enable the department
to continue to provide essential health care.

(2) The department may transfer six hundred thousand dollars
($600,000) in any fiscal year to the State Health Department Building and
Local Grant Trust Fund for the purposes established by § 20-7-204.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 20-7-204(b), concerning the State Health
Department Building and Local Grant Trust Fund, is amended to read as
follows:

(b) The fund shall consist of such revenues as may be authorized by
law, including the portion of client visit fees specified in § 20-7-127 a
portion collected under § 20-7-129.

SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 19-5-962(b), concerning the State Health
Department Building and Local Grant Trust Fund, is amended to read as
follows:

(b) The Except as provided in § 20-7-203(b), the fund shall consist of that portion of local health unit fees specified in § 20-7-127, and any other moneys authorized by law, there to be used, except as provided in § 20-7-203(b), only for expansion, renovation, construction, or improvements to the State Health Department building and for grants for construction, renovation, or other expansion of approved local health unit facilities in this state.

/s/E. Cheatham

APPROVED: 02/21/2017