

1 State of Arkansas
2 91st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2017
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1724

5 By: Representative Magie
6 By: Senator Irvin
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO CLARIFY THE HEALTHCARE PROCEDURE CODE TO BE
10 USED FOR REIMBURSEMENT FOR DIGITAL MAMMOGRAPHY
11 SERVICES; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER
12 PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

15 TO CLARIFY THE HEALTHCARE PROCEDURE CODE
16 TO BE USED FOR REIMBURSEMENT FOR DIGITAL
17 MAMMOGRAPHY SERVICES; AND TO DECLARE AN
18 EMERGENCY.
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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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24 SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative findings.

25 The General Assembly finds that:

26 (1) Health insurance payments to healthcare providers are
27 primarily driven by Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes that are
28 listed in the annual edition of Current Procedural Terminology published by
29 the American Medical Association;

30 (2) If a Current Procedural Terminology code is not available
31 for a healthcare procedure or is not listed in the most recent annual edition
32 of Current Procedural Terminology, temporary Healthcare Common Procedure
33 Coding System (HCPCS) G codes are used;

34 (3) In the struggle against breast cancer, digital mammography
35 provides a powerful proven tool for early detection of disease, facilitating
36 early intervention and increasing the chances for a complete recovery for



1 patients; and

2 (4) There is limited access to digital mammography service
 3 particularly in rural areas of the state because of the significant increase
 4 in the cost of equipment and time and the lack of adjustment of payment.

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 6 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 23-79-140(e), concerning the reimbursement
 7 code for digital mammography, is amended to read as follows:

8 (e)(1) After January 1, 2014, an accident and health insurance
 9 company, hospital service corporation, health maintenance organization, or
 10 other accident and health insurance provider shall use the Healthcare Common
 11 Procedure Coding System G code for digital mammography services or the
 12 Current Procedural Terminology code as established for digital mammography
 13 and listed in the most recent annual edition of Current Procedural
 14 Terminology published by the American Medical Association.

15 ~~(2) and reimburse those codes~~ The codes used for digital
 16 mammography services described in subdivision (e)(1) of this section shall be
 17 reimbursed at a minimum of one and five-tenths (1.5) times the Medicare
 18 reimbursement rate ~~for those codes until a Current Procedural Terminology~~
 19 ~~code is established.~~

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 21 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
 22 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that a Current Procedural
 23 Terminology code for digital mammography is available; that an update to
 24 Arkansas law is necessary to address the new Current Procedural Terminology
 25 code for digital mammography; and that this act is immediately necessary
 26 because of the need to maintain coverage and provide proper reimbursement for
 27 digital mammography. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this
 28 act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace,
 29 health, and safety shall become effective on:

30 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

31 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,
 32 the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the
 33 bill; or

34 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is
 35 overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.

36 **APPROVED: 03/15/2017**