State of Arkansas  
93rd General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2021  

By: Representative L. Johnson  

For An Act To Be Entitled  
AN ACT TO PROHIBIT REQUIRING CERTAIN REFERRALS FROM A PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER IN ORDER FOR A BENEFICIARY IN THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM TO RECEIVE MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  

Subtitle  
TO PROHIBIT REQUIRING CERTAIN REFERRALS FROM A PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER IN ORDER FOR A BENEFICIARY IN THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM TO RECEIVE MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING.  

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 77, Subchapter 1, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:
20-77-142. Prohibition on referrals for mental health counseling.  
The Arkansas Medicaid Program shall not require a beneficiary to first obtain a referral from a primary care provider before receiving mental health counseling for the first ten (10) visits for mental health counseling.  

/s/L. Johnson  

APPROVED: 4/25/21