

"AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 23 OF ACT 454 OF 1975, AS AMENDED [ARK. STAT. 66-5223], THE HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION ACT, TO PROVIDE FOR INCREASED FEES TO BE CHARGED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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

SECTION 1. Section 23 of Act 454 of 1975, as amended, the same being Arkansas Statute 66-5223, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 23. Every health maintenance organization subject to this Act shall pay the Arkansas Department of Health the following fees:

(a) For filing, reviewing and issuance of all documents necessary for issuance of original Certificate of Authority, One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00).

(b) For annual renewal of the Certificate of Authority, Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00);

(c) For filing annual statement, Fifty Dollars (\$50.00);

(d) For filing amendments to documents required under subsection (3)(b) of Section 3, Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00)."

SECTION 2. (a) All fees levied and collected under this provision are hereby declared to be "special revenues" and shall be deposited in the State Treasury, there to be credited to the Public Health Fund.

(b) Transfer of Funds. Subject to such rules and regulations as may be implemented by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, the Disbursing Officer for the Department of Health is hereby authorized to transfer all unexpended funds relative to the health maintenance organization that pertain to fees collected, as certified by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, to be carried forward and made available for expenditures for the same purpose for any following fiscal year.

SECTION 3. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. EMERGENCY. It is hereby found and determined by the General Assembly that due to current economic conditions, budgetary constraints may limit the ability of the Department of Health to adequately provide needed services unless some license fees are increased; that it is most equitable to make this increase effective immediately upon passage of this Act. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

APPROVED: 3/17/87

---