Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law. Act 959 of the Regular Session

1	State of Arkansas As Engrossed: H3/4/19	
2	92nd General Assembly A Bill	
3	Regular Session, 2019 HOUSE BILL 15:	55
4		
5	By: Representatives A. Collins, Cloud, A. Davis, Eaves, D. Ferguson, Gazaway, Hawks, L. Johnson,	
6	Lundstrum, Magie	
7	By: Senators Irvin, Bond, M. Johnson	
8		
9	For An Act To Be Entitled	
10	AN ACT TO INCREASE COVERAGE FOR MEDICATIONS APPROVED	
11	BY THE UNITED STATES FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION FOR	
12	TOBACCO CESSATION IN THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM;	
13	AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.	
14		
15		
16	Subtitle	
17	TO INCREASE COVERAGE FOR MEDICATIONS	
18	APPROVED BY THE UNITED STATES FOOD AND	
19	DRUG ADMINISTRATION FOR TOBACCO CESSATION	
20	IN THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM.	
21		
22		
23	BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:	
24		
25	SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. <u>Legislative findings and intent.</u>	
26	(a) The General Assembly finds that:	
27	(1) Arkansas has the third-highest rate of adult smokers in the	
28	<u>United States</u> ;	
29	(2) Arkansas has the third-highest rate of new lung cancer	
30	diagnoses in the United States;	
31	(3) One-third $(1/3)$ of all cancer-related deaths are tied to the	<u>e</u>
32	use of tobacco; and	
33	(4) The Arkansas Healthcare Transparency Initiative, the	
34	statewide all-payer claims database, projects that the annual cost of tobacc	<u>o</u>
35	use to the Arkansas Medicaid Program to be approximately seven hundred	
36	ninety-five million dollars (\$795,000,000).	

As Engrossed: H3/4/19 HB1555

(b) It is the intent of this section to lower the rate of adult
smokers in Arkansas and to reduce costs of treatment related to tobacco use-
related illness by increasing coverage in the Arkansas Medicaid Program for
medications approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for
tobacco cessation.
SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 77, Subchapter 1, is
amended to add an additional section to read as follows:
20-77-135. Medications approved by the United States Food and Drug
Administration for tobacco cessation coverage.
(a) The Department of Human Services shall ensure that the Arkansas
Medicaid Program covers for medications approved by the United States Food
and Drug Administration for tobacco cessation, including without limitation:
(1) Nicotine replacement therapy patches;
(2) Nicotine replacement therapy gum;
(3) Nicotine replacement therapy lozenges;
(4) Nicotine replacement therapy nasal spray;
(5) Nicotine replacement therapy inhalers;
(6) Bupropion; and
(7) Varenicline.
(b) Prior authorization shall not be required for coverage of
medications described in subsection (a) of this section.
/s/A. Collins
APPROVED: 4/12/19