

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2021
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 290

5 By: Senators G. Leding, Bledsoe, L. Eads, J. Hendren, K. Ingram
6 By: Representatives Vaught, D. Ferguson, Jett
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT CONCERNING COVERAGE OF DIAGNOSTIC EXAMINATIONS
10 FOR BREAST CANCER UNDER CERTAIN HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS;
11 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
12
13

Subtitle

15 CONCERNING COVERAGE OF DIAGNOSTIC
16 EXAMINATIONS FOR BREAST CANCER UNDER
17 CERTAIN HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS.
18
19

20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
21

22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 23-79-140 is amended to read as follows:

23 23-79-140. Mammograms – Breast ultrasounds – Definitions.

24 (a) As used in this section:

25 (1) "Breast magnetic resonance imaging" means a diagnostic tool
26 that uses a powerful magnetic field, radio waves, and a computer to produce
27 detailed pictures of the structures within the breast;

28 (2) "Breast ultrasound" means a noninvasive, diagnostic
29 imaging technique that uses harmless, high-frequency sound waves to produce
30 detailed images of the breast in order to screen for and diagnose breast
31 disease, such as cancer;

32 ~~(2)~~(3) "Cost-sharing requirement" means a deductible,
33 coinsurance, copayment, and any maximum limitation on the application of a
34 deductible, coinsurance, copayment, or similar out-of-pocket expense under a
35 health benefit plan;

36 (4) "Diagnostic examination for breast cancer" means a medically



1 necessary and appropriate examination, as determined by a clinician who is
2 treating the individual for breast cancer, to evaluate the abnormality in the
3 breast that is:

4 (A) Seen or suspected from a screening examination for
5 breast cancer;

6 (B) Detected by another means of examination; or

7 (C) Suspected based on the medical history or family
8 medical history of the individual;

9 (5) "Diagnostic mammography" means a ~~problem-solving radiologic~~
10 ~~procedure of higher intensity than screening mammography provided to women~~
11 ~~who are suspected to have breast pathology, usually characterized by the~~
12 ~~following medical events~~ diagnostic tool that:

13 (A) ~~Patients are usually referred for analysis of palpable~~
14 ~~abnormalities or for further evaluation of mammographically detected~~
15 ~~abnormalities~~ Uses X-ray; and

16 (B) ~~All images are reviewed by the physician interpreting~~
17 ~~the study, and additional views are obtained as needed~~ Is designed to
18 ~~evaluate an abnormality in a breast; and~~

19 (C) ~~A physical examination of the breast by the~~
20 ~~interpreting physician to correlate the radiologic findings is performed as~~
21 ~~part of the study when indicated;~~

22 (6) "Examination for breast cancer" means an examination used to
23 evaluate an abnormality in a breast using diagnostic mammography, breast
24 magnetic resonance imaging, or breast ultrasound;

25 (7)(A) "Health benefit plan" means an individual, blanket, or
26 any group plan, policy, or contract for healthcare services issued, renewed,
27 or extended in this state by a healthcare insurer, health maintenance
28 organization, hospital medical service corporation, or self-insured
29 governmental or church plan in this state.

30 (B) "Health benefit plan" includes:

31 (i) Indemnity and managed care plans; and

32 (ii) Plans providing health benefits to state and
33 public school employees under § 21-5-401 et seq.

34 (C) "Health benefit plan" does not include:

35 (i) A plan that provides only dental benefits or eye
36 and vision care benefits;

- 1 (ii) A disability income plan;
- 2 (iii) A credit insurance plan;
- 3 (iv) Insurance coverage issued as a supplement to
- 4 liability insurance;
- 5 (v) Medical payments under an automobile or
- 6 homeowners' insurance plan;
- 7 (vi) A health benefit plan provided under Arkansas
- 8 Constitution, Article 5, § 32, the Workers' Compensation Law, § 11-9-101 et
- 9 seq., and the Public Employee Workers' Compensation Act, § 21-5-601 et seq.;
- 10 (vii) A plan that provides only indemnity for
- 11 hospital confinement;
- 12 (viii) An accident-only plan; or
- 13 (ix) A specified disease plan;

14 (8)(A) "Healthcare insurer" means any insurance company,

15 hospital and medical service corporation, or health maintenance organization

16 that issues or delivers health benefit plans in this state and is subject to

17 any of the following laws:

- 18 (i) The insurance laws of this state;
- 19 (ii) Section 23-75-101 et seq., pertaining to
- 20 hospital and medical service corporations; or
- 21 (iii) Section 23-76-101 et seq., pertaining to
- 22 health maintenance organizations.

23 (B) "Healthcare insurer" does not include an entity that

24 provides only dental benefits or eye and vision care benefits;

25 ~~(3)~~(9) "Mammography" means radiography of the breast; and

26 ~~(4)~~(A)(10)(A) "Screening mammography", including digital breast

27 tomosynthesis, means a radiologic procedure provided to a woman, who has no

28 signs or symptoms of breast cancer, for the purpose of early detection of

29 breast cancer.

30 (B) The procedure entails at least two (2) views of each

31 breast and includes a ~~physician's~~ radiologist's interpretation of the results

32 of the procedure.

33 (b)(1)(A) ~~Every accident and health insurance company, hospital~~

34 ~~service corporation, health maintenance organization, or other accident and~~

35 ~~health insurance provider~~ healthcare insurer in the State of Arkansas this

36 state shall offer as an essential health benefit, coverage for screening

1 mammography ~~and breast ultrasound~~ for the diagnosis of breast disease such as
2 cancer and the evaluation of dense breast tissue:

3 (A) A baseline mammogram for an insured woman who is
4 thirty-five to forty (35-40) years of age;

5 (B) An annual mammogram for an insured woman who is forty
6 (40) years of age or older;

7 (C) Upon recommendation of a woman’s physician, without
8 regard to age, when the woman has had a prior history of breast cancer, when
9 the woman’s mother or sister has had a history of breast cancer, positive
10 genetic testing, or other risk factors; and

11 (D) A ~~comprehensive ultrasound screening of an entire~~
12 ~~breast or breasts~~ complete breast ultrasound if a mammogram screening
13 demonstrates heterogeneously dense or extremely dense breast tissue and the
14 woman’s primary healthcare provider or radiologist determines ~~a comprehensive~~
15 an ultrasound screening is medically necessary.

16 (2) Insurance coverage for screening mammograms under a health
17 benefit plan, including digital breast tomosynthesis, and breast ultrasounds
18 shall not prejudice coverage for diagnostic mammograms or breast ultrasounds,
19 as recommended by the woman’s physician.

20 (3) A fully insured large group insurer that issues, renews, or
21 extends a health benefit plan in this state shall also provide coverage for
22 an optional screening mammography and breast ultrasound benefit as described
23 under subdivision (b)(1) of this section.

24 ~~(4) As used in this subsection, an accident and health insurance~~
25 ~~company, hospital service corporation, health maintenance organization, or~~
26 ~~other accident and health insurance provider does not include benefits under~~
27 ~~one (1) or more, or any combination thereof, of the following:~~

28 ~~(A) Coverage only for accident or disability income~~
29 ~~insurance, or any combination thereof;~~

30 ~~(B) Coverage issued as a supplement to liability~~
31 ~~insurance;~~

32 ~~(C) Liability insurance, including general liability~~
33 ~~insurance and automobile liability insurance;~~

34 ~~(D) Workers’ compensation or similar insurance;~~

35 ~~(E) Automobile medical payment insurance;~~

36 ~~(F) Credit only insurance;~~

