

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

A Bill

SENATE BILL 395

5 By: Senator Irvin
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO MODIFY THE ANNUAL CAP ON DIAGNOSTIC
9 LABORATORY SERVICES IN THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM;
10 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

12 TO MODIFY THE ANNUAL CAP ON DIAGNOSTIC
13 LABORATORY SERVICES IN THE ARKANSAS
14 MEDICAID PROGRAM.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 77, Subchapter 1, is
22 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

23 20-77-140. Diagnostic laboratory services.

24 (a) The General Assembly finds that:

25 (1) The national coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) emergency has
26 emphasized the critical importance of laboratory testing for diagnosing
27 disease and promoting health;

28 (2) There is a disparity in the scope of laboratory testing
29 services that are covered by the Arkansas Medicaid Program;

30 (3) Often, radiology services are grouped with diagnostic
31 laboratory services;

32 (4) Radiology services are more expensive than diagnostic
33 laboratory services and greatly reduce the services that a beneficiary can
34 receive;

35 (5) The Arkansas Medicaid Program only covers up to five hundred
36 dollars (\$500) for all diagnostic laboratory services, including radiology;



1 and

2 (6) This disparity in services should be reduced or eliminated.

3 (b) The program shall set the annual cap for:

4 (1) Diagnostic laboratory services, not including radiology
5 services, of at least five hundred dollars (\$500); and

6 (2) Radiology services of at least five hundred dollars (\$500).

7 (c) The Department of Human Services shall apply for any federal
8 waiver, Medicaid state plan amendment, or other authorization necessary to
9 implement this section.

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