

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2017-118

State of Arkansas
91st General Assembly
Third Extraordinary Session, 2018

A Bill

JMB/JMB
HOUSE BILL

By: Representative Gonzales

Filed with: House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor
pursuant to A.C.A. §10-3-217.

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM TO
RECOGNIZE AN ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE AS A
PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AUTHORIZE THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID
PROGRAM TO RECOGNIZE AN ADVANCED PRACTICE
REGISTERED NURSE AS A PRIMARY CARE
PROVIDER.

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:

20-77-135. Primary care provider for Arkansas Medicaid Program –
Advanced practice registered nurse.

(a)(1) The Arkansas Medicaid Program shall recognize an advanced
practice registered nurse licensed by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing for
all purposes as a primary care provider authorized to carry out the duties of
a primary care physician and a primary care case manager.

(2) Purposes under subdivision (a)(1) of this section include
without limitation:

(A) Being recognized as the initial healthcare provider in
the federal Comprehensive Primary Care Initiative payment model;

(B) Performing initial diagnosis;

1 (C) Acting as the team leader of family practice
2 professionals and the patient-centered medical home;

3 (D) Maintaining the medical records of a patient;

4 (E) Ordering laboratory tests and records management as
5 needed for patient care;

6 (F) Providing preventive and periodic examinations within
7 primary care;

8 (G) Referring a patient to a physician, a specialist, or a
9 hospital when necessary; and

10 (H) Treating a patient within the scope of practice and
11 licensure of an advanced practice registered nurse.

12 (b) The program shall reimburse an advanced practice registered nurse:

13 (1) Not less than the current reimbursement rate for services
14 performed within the scope of practice and licensure of the advanced practice
15 registered nurse;

16 (2) One hundred percent (100%) of the physician reimbursement
17 rate for all out-of-pocket costs incurred by the advanced practice registered
18 nurse such as the costs of laboratory tests, x-rays, and any additional tests
19 ordered or conducted by the advanced practice registered nurse; and

20 (3)(A) For any other costs and services performed within the
21 scope of practice and licensure of the advanced practice registered nurse.

22 (B) The scope of practice and licensure of the advanced
23 practice registered nurse shall be determined by the board.

24 (c) A healthcare insurance policy in which the premiums are paid
25 directly or indirectly by the program also shall recognize and reimburse an
26 advanced practice registered nurse under subsections (a) and (b) of this
27 section.

28 (d) This section does not increase the scope of practice or licensure
29 of an advanced practice registered nurse.

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31
32 Referred by Representative Gonzales

33 Prepared by: JMB/JMB