

04-19-2019 12:55;

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2019-046

1
2 State of Arkansas
3 92nd General Assembly
4 Regular Session, 2019

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1918

5
6 By: Representatives K. Ferguson, F. Allen, M. Gray

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

For An Act To Be Entitled

9
10 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH CANCER PATIENT NAVIGATION TO
11 IMPROVE THE CARE OF CANCER PATIENTS IN THIS STATE;
12 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

13
14
15
16 TO ESTABLISH CANCER PATIENT NAVIGATION TO
17 IMPROVE THE CARE OF CANCER PATIENTS IN
18 THIS STATE.

19
20
21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

22
23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 15, Subchapter 2, is
24 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

25 20-15-206. Cancer patient navigation.

26 (a) As used in this section:

27 (1) "Health disparity population" means a population that has
28 significant disparity in the rate of cancer incidence, prevalence, morbidity,
29 or survival rates as compared to the general population; and

30 (2) "Patient navigation" means the facilitating the care of
31 patients through:

32 (A) Acting as contacts for individuals who are found to
33 have a symptom, abnormal finding, or diagnosis of cancer following a
34 screening or early detection service, including without limitation the
35 assistance in the coordination of healthcare services and healthcare provider
36 referrals;

1 (B) Facilitating the involvement of community
2 organizations in assisting individuals who are at risk for or who have cancer
3 by creating partnerships with patient advocacy groups, charities, healthcare
4 centers, community hospice centers, healthcare providers, or other
5 organizations in the targeted community;

6 (C) Notifying individuals of clinical trials and if
7 requested, facilitating enrollment in the clinical trials;

8 (D) Anticipating, identifying, and helping patients
9 overcome barriers within the healthcare system to ensure prompt diagnostic
10 and treatment resolution of an abnormal finding of cancer;

11 (E) Coordinating with a relevant health insurance
12 ombudsman program to provide information to individuals who are at risk for
13 or who have cancer about health coverage, including without limitation
14 private insurance, healthcare savings accounts, the Arkansas Medicaid
15 Program, and other publicly funded programs; and

16 (F) Conducting ongoing outreach to health disparity
17 populations.

18 (b) The Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute at the University of
19 Arkansas for Medical Sciences may establish a comprehensive cancer patient
20 navigation program to:

21 (1) Guide patients who are diagnosed with cancer through the
22 healthcare system;

23 (2) Help patients who are diagnosed with cancer overcome
24 physical, emotional, social, and financial barriers to receiving timely and
25 efficient cancer treatment; and

26 (3) Improve care of patients who are diagnosed with cancer in
27 this state.

28
29
30 Referred requested by the Arkansas House of Representatives

31 Prepared by: JMB/VJF

32
33
34
35
36