

**ARKANSAS SENATE**  
92nd General Assembly - Regular Session, 2019  
**Amendment Form**

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**Subtitle of House Bill No. 1656**

TO AMEND THE PRIOR AUTHORIZATION TRANSPARENCY ACT; TO PROHIBIT PRIOR  
AUTHORIZATION FOR MEDICATION-ASSISTED TREATMENT; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

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**Amendment No. 1 to House Bill 1656**

Amend House Bill No. 1656 as engrossed, H3/25/19 (version: 03/25/2019 01:41:30 PM)

Add Senator Bledsoe as a cosponsor of the bill

AND

Page 2, line 11, delete "opioid addiction" and substitute "opioid addiction approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration"

AND

Page 2, line 16, delete "A healthcare" and substitute "Except in the case of injectables, a healthcare"

AND

Page 2, delete lines 18 and 19, and substitute the following:  
"coverage of buprenorphine, naloxone, naltrexone, methadone, and their various formulations and combinations approved by the United States Food and"

AND

Page 2, line 22, delete "or compliance" and substitute "and compliance"

AND

Page 2, delete lines 23 through 25, and substitute the following:  
"Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration under the United States Department of Health and Human Services in order for a patient to obtain coverage for buprenorphine, naloxone, naltrexone, methadone, and their various formulations and combinations approved by"

AND



Page 2, delete lines 28 through 29, and substitute the following:

"(b) Subdivision (a)(1) of this section shall only apply to the Arkansas Medicaid Program as it pertains to prescription drugs for treatment of opioid addiction designated as preferred on the evidence-based preferred drug list provided there is at least one (1) of each of the drugs listed in subdivision (a)(1) of this section with the preferred designation on the preferred drug list or available without prior authorization.

(c) If a new formulation or medication approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for use as a prescription for medication-assisted treatment becomes available after the effective date of this section and is"

AND

Page 2, delete lines 34 through 36, and substitute the following:

"(d) A healthcare insurer utilizing a tiered drug formulary shall place on the lowest-cost benefit tier at least one (1) product for each of the following medications that is approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration:

- (1) Buprenorphine;
- (2) Naloxone;
- (3) Naltrexone;
- (4) Methadone; and
- (5) A product containing both buprenorphine and naloxone."

AND

Page 3, line 1, delete "(d)" and substitute "(e)"

AND

Page 3, line 4, delete "(e)" and substitute "(f)"

AND

Page 3, delete line 7, and substitute the following:

"with medication.

(g) The Arkansas Medicaid Program shall have until January 1, 2020, to comply with this section."

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and \_\_\_\_\_

By: Senator Bledsoe

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Secretary