

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2009-175

State of Arkansas
87th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2009

A Bill

SENATE BILL 967

By: Senator Steele
By: Representative Rainey

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

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO ENSURE FULL PARTICIPATION FOR ARKANSAS
IN THE FEDERAL SICKLE CELL DISEASE EDUCATION AND
TREATMENT INITIATIVE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO ENSURE FULL PARTICIPATION FOR
ARKANSAS IN THE FEDERAL SICKLE CELL
DISEASE EDUCATION AND TREATMENT
INITIATIVE.

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:

20-77-125. Sickle Cell Disease education and treatment waiver.

(a) The Department of Human Services shall seek a Medicaid waiver from
the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to receive federal matching
funds for costs incurred for providing:

(1) Services to identify and educate individuals who have Sickle
Cell Disease or who are carriers of the sickle cell gene, including education
regarding how to identify such individuals;

(2) Education regarding the risks of stroke and other
complications, as well as the prevention of stroke and other complications in



1 individuals who have Sickle Cell Disease;

2 (3) Primary and secondary preventative medical strategies,
3 including prophylaxes, and treatment and services for individuals who have
4 Sickle Cell Disease;

5 (4) Strategies, treatment, and services, including without
6 limitation:

7 (A) Chronic blood transfusion with deferoxamine chelation
8 to prevent stroke in individuals with Sickle Cell Disease who have been
9 identified as being at high risk for stroke;

10 (B) Genetic counseling and testing for individuals with
11 Sickle Cell Disease or the sickle cell trait; and

12 (C) Other treatment and services to prevent individuals who
13 have Sickle Cell Disease and who have had a stroke from having another
14 stroke.

15 (b) The department will seek to make grants under the waiver to
16 federally-qualified health centers, nonprofit hospitals or clinics, and
17 university health centers that provides primary health care.

18 (c) An entity awarded a grant under this subsection (b) of this
19 section shall use funds made available under the grant to:

20 (1) Facilitate and coordinate the delivery of education,
21 treatment, and continuity of care for individuals with Sickle Cell Disease
22 under:

23 (A) The entity's collaborative agreement with a community-
24 based Sickle Cell Disease organization or a nonprofit entity that works with
25 individuals who have Sickle Cell Disease;

26 (B) A Sickle Cell Disease newborn screening program under
27 the state Medicaid plan; and

28 (C) A maternal and child health program under the state
29 Medicaid plan;

30 (2) Train nursing and other health staff who specialize in
31 pediatrics, obstetrics, internal medicine, or family practice to provide
32 health care and genetic counseling for individuals with the sickle cell
33 trait;

34 (3) Enter into a partnership with adult or pediatric
35 hematologists in the region and other regional experts in Sickle Cell Disease
36 at tertiary and academic health centers and state and county health offices;

1 and

2 (4) Identify and secure resources for ensuring reimbursement
3 under the Medicaid program, State Children's Health Insurance program, and
4 other health programs for the prevention and treatment of Sickle Cell
5 Disease, including the genetic testing of parents or other appropriate
6 relatives of children with Sickle Cell Disease and of adults with Sickle Cell
7 Disease.

8 (b) The Partners for Inclusive Communities program of the University
9 of Arkansas for Medical Sciences shall serve as the state advocate for a
10 comprehensive approach to Sickle Cell Disease education and treatment.

11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36 Filed Date: 04/22/2009 By: MGF\VJF