

State of Arkansas

76th General Assembly

Regular Session, 1987

SENATE BILL 609

By: Senator Moore

"AN ACT TO ALLOW PERSONS ENROLLED IN HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS IN LIEU OF A TRADITIONAL INSURANCE PLAN TO OBTAIN THE SERVICES OF A CHIROPRACTIC PHYSICIAN; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Any person who is a member of or who is enrolled in a health maintenance organization in lieu of a traditional insurance plan shall have the right to obtain the services of a chiropractic physician without a referral by the primary care physician. If the member or enrollee needs further treatment, he or she must return to the primary care physician for further referral. Enrollees shall be required to seek the services of a chiropractic physician under contract to the health maintenance organization.

SECTION 2. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. EMERGENCY. It is hereby found and determined by the General Assembly that under present law there is a serious question concerning the right of a member of a health maintenance organization to obtain the services of a chiropractic physician except through referral by a physician licensed under the Arkansas Medical Practices Act; that this practice results in many citizens of this State being deprived of essential services of a chiropractic physician; that it is essential to the health and welfare of the people of this State who are members of health maintenance organizations that they have the right to obtain the services of a chiropractic physician without referral; that this Act is designed to accomplish this purpose and should be given effect immediately. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and

this Act being necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

