

State of Arkansas

77th General Assembly

Regular Session, 1989

A Bill

HOUSE BILL

1433

By: Representative Tullis

For An Act To Be Entitled

"AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH, TO IMPLEMENT A REIMBURSEMENT SYSTEM TO RECOVER PART OR ALL OF THE COSTS OF CERTAIN MEDICAL SUPPLIES OR SERVICES; TO PROVIDE THAT THE ABILITY OF PATIENTS TO PAY SHALL BE CONSIDERED WHEN ESTABLISHING FEES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

WHEREAS, the costs of certain diagnostic tests and procedures, medications and immunizations are increasing dramatically; and

WHEREAS, provision of these medical services is essential to the health of Arkansans and to maintaining quality standards of care; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Health is committed to achieving and maintaining adequate immunization levels for ninety-five percent (95%) of children in public and private schools and above ninety percent (90%) of children in childcare facilities; and

WHEREAS, escalating costs are compromising the department's ability to maintain sufficient resources to immunize citizens of the state and to provide such tests, procedures, and medications,

NOW THEREFORE,

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

SECTION 1. (a) The State Board of Health is authorized to adopt rules and regulations to implement a reimbursement system to recover part or all of the costs of certain medical supplies or services.

(b) The system shall provide that fees shall be collected only from

those patients who are financially able to pay the fee and no one shall be denied services because of inability to pay.

(c) Funds derived from the fees shall be used exclusively for the purchase of medical supplies or services necessary to enable the Department of Health to continue to provide essential health care.

(d) Any fee established shall not exceed the cost of the service.

(e) All medications and treatment for tuberculosis patients shall be excluded from any such fee system established under the provisions of this act.

SECTION 2. Funds collected by the State Department of Health pursuant to the authority granted in this act, shall be deposited in the State Treasury. These funds shall be credited to the Public Health Fund to be used exclusively for support of medical supplies or services. Subject to such rules and regulations as may be implemented by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, all unexpended funds that pertain to fees collected shall be carried forward and made available for expenditure for the same purposes for any following fiscal year.

SECTION 3. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

