

1 State of Arkansas
2 82nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1999
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1705

5 By: Representative P. Malone
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 "AN ACT TO PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR TREATMENT OF THE BONES
10 AND JOINTS OF THE FACE, HEAD AND NECK IN THE SAME
11 MANNER AS COVERAGE FOR TREATMENT OF OTHER BONES AND
12 JOINTS OF THE HUMAN BODY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."
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Subtitle

14 "TO PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR TREATMENT OF THE
15 BONES AND JOINTS OF THE FACE, HEAD AND
16 NECK IN THE SAME MANNER AS COVERAGE FOR
17 TREATMENT OF OTHER BONES AND JOINTS OF
18 THE HUMAN BODY."
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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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24 SECTION 1. (a) Health and disability insurance policies that provide
25 coverage for surgical and nonsurgical procedures shall specifically provide
26 coverage for diagnosis and treatment which is medically necessary and a result
27 of an accident, trauma, congenital defect, developmental defect, or pathology,
28 including surgical and nonsurgical procedures for musculoskeletal disorders
29 affecting any bone or joint in the face, neck, or head. This coverage shall
30 be the same as that provided for any other musculoskeletal disorder in the
31 body and shall be provided when prescribed or administered by a physician or a
32 dentist.

33 (b) The provisions of this section apply to all group or individual
34 health or accident insurance policies issued, delivered, renewed or amended by
35 insurance companies, nonprofit hospital or medical service corporation service
36 contracts, health maintenance organizations, dental maintenance organizations,

1 preferred provider organizations, nonprofit health services, or self-insurance
2 plans.

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4 SECTION 2. All provisions of this Act of a general and permanent nature
5 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
6 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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8 SECTION 3. If any provision of this Act or the application thereof to
9 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
10 other provisions or applications of the Act which can be given effect without
11 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
12 Act are declared to be severable.

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14 SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are
15 hereby repealed.

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17 SECTION 5. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is hereby found and determined by the
18 Eighty-second General Assembly that patients are being denied adequate
19 coverage for temporomandibular disorder, and are being forced to live in pain
20 and frustration. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this act
21 being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health
22 and safety shall become effective on the date of its approval by the Governor.
23 If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, it shall become
24 effective on the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor
25 may veto the bill. If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is
26 overridden, it shall become effective on the date the last house overrides the
27 veto.