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.

1	State of Arkansas	As Engrossed: H3/20/07 H3/26/07		
2	86th General Assembly A Bill			
3	Regular Session, 2007HOUSE BILL23		HOUSE BILL 2349	
4				
5	By: Representative Bond			
6				
7				
8	For An Act To Be Entitled			
9	TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE § 23-99-411 TO DECREASE			
10	THE AMOUNT OF TIME ALLOWED FOR PROCESSING			
11	APPLICATIONS OF PROVIDERS; AND FOR OTHER			
12	PURPOSE	lS.		
13				
14		Subtitle		
15	TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE § 23-99-411 TO			
16	DECREASE THE AMOUNT OF TIME ALLOWED FOR			
17	PROC	CESSING APPLICATIONS OF PROVIDERS.		
18				
19				
20	BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:			
21				
22	SECTION 1. Ark	ansas Code § 23-99-411 is amended t	to read as follows:	
23	23-99-411. Processing applications of providers.			
24	(a)(1) Health care insurers shall establish mechanisms to ensure			
25	timely processing of requests for participation or renewal by providers and			
26	in making decisions that affect participation status. These mechanisms shall			
27	include, at a minimum, provisions for the provider to receive a written			
28	statement of reasons for the health care insurer's denial of a request for			
29	initial participation	or renewal.		
30	(2) Heal	th care insurers shall make a decis	sion within one	
31	hundred eighty (180) <u>ninety (90)</u> days of submission of a completed			
32	application, as defined by rule of the Insurance Commissioner, for			
33	participation or a request for renewal by a physician and within one hundred			
34	eighty (180) days of a completed application for participation or a request			
35	for renewal by any ot	her medical provider.		
36	<u>(3)</u> The	commissioner shall adopt rules to:		



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1	(A) Make allowances for potential processing delays due to		
2	the verification of provider credentials; and		
3	(B) Establish requirements for health care insurers to		
4	properly notify providers of any delays and the reasons for a delay.		
5	(4) The commissioner may adopt rules to ensure that covered		
6	health care claims submitted by patients or their providers are not		
7	negatively impacted by delays in processing participation applications.		
8	(b) Nothing in this section shall prevent a provider or a health care		
9	insurer from terminating a participating provider contract in accordance with		
10	its terms.		
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12	/s/ Bond		
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