

1 State of Arkansas
2 92nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2019
4

As Engrossed: S4/1/19

A Bill

SENATE BILL 634

5 By: Senator Bledsoe
6 By: Representative D. Ferguson
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM TO
10 COVER OPIOID ANTAGONISTS AS A PHARMACY BENEFIT; AND
11 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

15 TO REQUIRE THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM
16 TO COVER OPIOID ANTAGONISTS AS A PHARMACY
17 BENEFIT.
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20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 77, Subchapter 4, is
23 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

24 20-77-406. Opioid antagonist.

25 (a) The Arkansas Medicaid Program:

26 (1) Shall cover any drug approved on or before the effective
27 date of this section by the United States Food and Drug Administration as an
28 opioid antagonist for the prevention of relapse to opioid dependence and
29 other substance use disorders; and

30 (2) May:

31 (A) Cover any drug approved after the effective date of
32 this section by the United States Food and Drug Administration as an opioid
33 antagonist for the prevention of relapse to opioid dependence and other
34 substance use disorders; and

35 (B) Replace a covered opioid antagonist for the prevention
36 of relapse to opioid dependence and other substance use disorders that has



1 been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration with another
2 opioid antagonist if the other opioid antagonist is:

3 (i) Approved by the United States Food and Drug
4 Administration for the prevention of relapse to opioid dependence and other
5 substance use disorders;

6 (ii) Proven to be more effective treatment for the
7 prevention of relapse to opioid dependence and other substance use disorders
8 than the existing covered opioid antagonist; and

9 (iii) Proven to be more cost-effective than the
10 existing covered opioid antagonist.

11 (b) Coverage as described under subsection (a) of this section shall
12 be a pharmacy benefit under the Arkansas Medicaid Program.

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15 /s/Bledsoe
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