

1 State of Arkansas  
2 93rd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2021  
4

As Engrossed: S3/16/21

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1177

5 By: Representative L. Johnson  
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## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
9 PERSONNEL TO ADMINISTER CERTAIN EMERGENCY  
10 PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS TO A PATIENT WHO HAS A  
11 SPECIFIC HEALTH CONDITION; TO ALLOW PARTICIPATION IN  
12 CARE COORDINATION BY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES; TO  
13 ENSURE APPROPRIATE TRANSPORT OF A PATIENT WHO HAS A  
14 SPECIFIC HEALTH CONDITION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

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18 TO AUTHORIZE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
19 PERSONNEL TO ADMINISTER CERTAIN EMERGENCY  
20 PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS TO A PATIENT WHO  
21 HAS A SPECIFIC HEALTH CONDITION.  
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24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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26 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 20-13-202, concerning the definitions under  
27 the Emergency Medical Services Act, is amended to add additional subdivisions  
28 to read as follows:

29 (11)(A) "Care coordination" means the coordination of healthcare  
30 services in nonemergency situations or in situations that do not require  
31 immediate action by healthcare professional teams to assist a patient in the  
32 management of his or her health care and to improve the efficiency and  
33 effectiveness of the healthcare sector.

34 (B) "Care coordination" includes without limitation:

35 (i) Developing potential treatment plans;

36 (ii) Determining the optimal treatment for a patient



1 before considering hospitalization; and

2 (iii) Establishing alternative approaches and  
3 treatment for a patient; and

4 (12)(A) "Specific health condition" means a health condition  
5 that requires specialized healthcare treatment.

6 (B) "Specific health condition" includes without  
7 limitation:

8 (i) A health condition that is listed as rare by the  
9 National Institutes of Health; and

10 (ii) A health condition that could be fatal for  
11 which a patient seeks specialized health care.

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13 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 13, Subchapter 2, is  
14 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

15 20-13-216. Specific health condition.

16 (a) Emergency medical services personnel may administer prescription  
17 medications that are:

18 (1) Carried by a patient;

19 (2) Administered via routes of delivery that are within the  
20 scope of training for emergency medical services personnel;

21 (3) Intended to treat a specific health condition; and

22 (4) Not listed on the drug formulary set out by the Department  
23 of Health.

24 (b) A patient who is diagnosed with a specific health condition may  
25 request to be transported to an alternative destination facility that is  
26 farther away than the nearest facility if:

27 (1) The alternative destination facility better meets the needs  
28 of the patient because:

29 (A) The patient's physician and medical records are at the  
30 alternative destination facility;

31 (B) The patient has recently been discharged from the  
32 alternative destination facility;

33 (C) The patient has had previous hospitalizations at the  
34 alternative destination facility; and

35 (D) The patient's complex medical history is followed at  
36 the alternative destination facility; and

1           (2) The request is approved by the local emergency medical  
2 services entity, which may include or be an emergency medical services board  
3 established under § 14-266-105(a)(3).

4           (c) The Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council shall establish  
5 standards for:

6           (1) Emergency medical services personnel to communicate with  
7 patients and caregivers of patients who are diagnosed with a specific health  
8 condition about:

9                   (A) The patient's specific health condition;

10                   (B) The likelihood that the patient will need emergency  
11 medical services; and

12                   (C) The collaborative development of emergency medical  
13 service care plans to meet the patient's needs; and

14           (2) Local emergency medical services entities, which may include  
15 or be emergency medical services boards established under § 14-266-105(a)(3),  
16 to participate in care coordination for patients who are diagnosed with a  
17 specific health condition.

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19   /s/L. Johnson  
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