

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

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1862

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

8 AN ACT TO PROHIBIT REQUIRING A REFERRAL FROM A
9 PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER IN ORDER FOR A BENEFICIARY IN
10 THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM TO RECEIVE MENTAL
11 HEALTH COUNSELING; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

14 TO PROHIBIT REQUIRING A REFERRAL FROM A
15 PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER IN ORDER FOR A
16 BENEFICIARY IN THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID
17 PROGRAM TO RECEIVE MENTAL HEALTH
18 COUNSELING.
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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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24 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 77, Subchapter 1, is
25 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

26 20-77-142. Prohibition on referrals for mental health counseling.

27 (a) The Arkansas Medicaid Program shall not require a beneficiary to
28 first obtain a referral from a primary care provider before receiving mental
29 health counseling.

30 (b) A healthcare provider that provides mental health counseling
31 without a referral from a primary care provider shall be reimbursed for the
32 services provided to the beneficiary.
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