

1 State of Arkansas
2 94th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2023
4

As Engrossed: H3/27/23

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1574

5 By: Representative Vaught
6 By: Senator K. Hammer
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO SUPPORT POSITIVE MENTAL HEALTH FOR FAMILIES
10 WITH YOUNG CHILDREN THROUGH THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID
11 PROGRAM; TO ESTABLISH SUPPLEMENTAL REIMBURSEMENT
12 RATES FOR PREVENTIVE SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH
13 COVERAGE IN THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM; AND FOR
14 OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

18 TO SUPPORT POSITIVE MENTAL HEALTH FOR
19 FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN THROUGH THE
20 ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM; AND TO
21 ESTABLISH SUPPLEMENTAL REIMBURSEMENT
22 RATES FOR PREVENTIVE SERVICES FOR
23 CHILDREN.

26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
27

28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 77, Subchapter 1, is
29 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

30 20-77-148. Legislative findings – Supplemental reimbursement rates for
31 preventive services for children.

32 (a) The General Assembly finds that:

33 (1) Prevention and early intervention in child health and well-
34 being improves health outcomes and saves money in the long term;

35 (2) A significant proportion of pediatric behavioral healthcare
36 claims in Arkansas occur in primary care settings;



1 (3) Through training and practice transformation, primary care
2 healthcare teams can address preventive behavioral health and family needs
3 through integrated care teams which include licensed mental health staff or
4 non-licensed mental health staff, or both; and

5 (4) The Mental Health and Behavioral Health Working Group in
6 2022 made a recommendation to incentivize medical homes, through supplemental
7 reimbursement rates, to address prevention and early intervention through
8 universal, team-based enhanced primary care services for children.

9 (b) As used in this section:

10 (1) “Actively participate in” means a physician practice has
11 completed training to implement a team-based, evidence-based pediatric
12 practice transformation model of care and is on track to achieve, or has
13 achieved, model fidelity according to requirements established by an entity
14 that utilizes data and outcomes; and

15 (2) “Team-based, evidence-based pediatric practice
16 transformation model of care” means a research-informed model of primary
17 health care for children that has demonstrated improved physical health,
18 behavioral health, developmental outcomes, and social outcomes for children
19 and their families.

20 (c) The Arkansas Medicaid Program shall:

21 (1) Provide a supplemental reimbursement rate for physician
22 practices enrolled in the patient-centered medical home program that
23 currently and actively participate in a team-based, evidence-based pediatric
24 practice transformation model of care; and

25 (2) Collaborate with experts in pediatric health care to select
26 the team-based, evidence-based pediatric practice transformation models of
27 care most appropriate for use with the patient-centered medical home program.

28 (d) The supplemental reimbursement rate described in subsection (c) of
29 this section shall:

30 (1) Supplement fee-for-service wellness visit rates in a child’s
31 medical home from birth until a child’s fourth birthday;

32 (2) Support the physician practices enrolled in the patient-
33 centered medical home program to employ interdisciplinary staff required to
34 implement the patient-centered medical home program; and

35 (3) Be reviewed periodically in conjunction with future Medicaid
36 rate reviews for physician services.

