

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

HR 1079

4  
5 By: Representative Richmond

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7 **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

8 TO RECOGNIZE THAT APPLICATION AND RENEWAL FEES FOR  
9 REGISTRY IDENTIFICATION CARDS FOR QUALIFYING PATIENTS  
10 CARDS MAY CAUSE FINANCIAL STRAIN FOR QUALIFYING  
11 PATIENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE MEDICAL MARIJUANA  
12 PROGRAM, ESPECIALLY FOR SENIORS AND MILITARY  
13 VETERANS; AND TO REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF  
14 HEALTH PROMULGATE RULES TO ALLEVIATE THE FINANCIAL  
15 BURDEN OF REGISTRY IDENTIFICATION CARDS FOR  
16 QUALIFYING PATIENTS.

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19 **Subtitle**

20 TO RECOGNIZE THAT FEES FOR REGISTRY  
21 IDENTIFICATION CARDS FOR QUALIFYING  
22 PATIENTS CAUSE A FINANCIAL STRAIN FOR  
23 PERSONS AND TO REQUEST THE DEPARTMENT OF  
24 HEALTH PROMULGATE RULES TO EASE THE  
25 FINANCIAL BURDEN.

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27 WHEREAS, the adoption of the Arkansas Medical Marijuana Amendment of  
28 2016, Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 98, established the Medical Marijuana  
29 Program; and

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31 WHEREAS, the Department of Finance and Administration model predicted  
32 thirty thousand (30,000) Arkansans would participate in the program; and

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34 WHEREAS, today, over ninety-two thousand (92,000) people hold active  
35 registry identification cards for qualifying patients; and

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1           WHEREAS, seniors and veterans are participants in the program,

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3       NOW THEREFORE,

4       BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL  
5       ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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7           THAT the Department of Health promulgate a rule to extend the annual  
8       renewal for registry identification cards for qualifying patients from one  
9       (1) year to two (2) years without increasing the annual fee.

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11          THAT the Department of Health promulgate a rule that discounts the fee  
12       for registry identification cards for qualifying patients by fifty percent  
13       (50%) for seniors and veterans.

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15       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution, the Department  
16       of Health is encouraged to expeditiously initiate rulemaking on this matter.