1	State of Arkansas
2	94th General Assembly
3	Regular Session, 2023 SR 54
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5	By: Senator C. Penzo
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7	SENATE 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 SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
5	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.
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