

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2025
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1588

5 By: Representative McAlindon
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE APPROVALS REQUIRED FROM THE
10 GOVERNOR AND CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER OF THE STATE BEFORE
11 THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES CAN TAKE CERTAIN
12 ACTIONS RELATED TO THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM; TO
13 REQUIRE APPROVAL OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY BEFORE THE
14 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES SEEKS OR IMPLEMENTS AN
15 EXPANSION OF COVERAGE IN THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID
16 PROGRAM OR INCREASES COSTS TO THE STATE FOR THE
17 ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
18

Subtitle

19
20
21 TO REQUIRE APPROVAL OF THE GENERAL
22 ASSEMBLY BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
23 SERVICES SEEKS OR IMPLEMENTS AN
24 EXPANSION OF COVERAGE OR INCREASES COSTS
25 TO THE STATE FOR THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID
26 PROGRAM.
27

28 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
29

30 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 20-77-110 is amended to read as follows:

31 20-77-110. Increase in reimbursement rate or cost to state – Expansion
32 of coverage.

33 Notwithstanding any other provision in federal law or departmental
34 commitment which may exist to the contrary, the Department of Human Services
35 shall not:

36 (1)(A) Increase ~~increase~~ any reimbursement rate to any provider



1 or provider groups supported in whole or in part by funds administered by the
2 department, ~~nor shall it~~ without first seeking and receiving the approval of
3 the Governor and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

4 (B) If reimbursement rates are decreased, the department
5 shall report to the Legislative Council concerning the reasons and
6 justification for the decrease in reimbursement rates;

7 (2) Adopt ~~adopt~~ any other rule or amendment to the Arkansas
8 Medicaid Program that would result in an obligation of the general revenues
9 of the state without first seeking and receiving the approval of the Governor
10 and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State; or

11 (3)(A) Apply for or implement any rule or amendment to the
12 Arkansas Medicaid Program or a Medicaid waiver from the Centers for Medicare
13 & Medicaid Services that would expand coverage to any additional individuals
14 or class of individuals or that would increase any cost to the state and
15 result in an obligation of the state without first obtaining approval by a
16 two-thirds (2/3) vote from either the Legislative Council or, if the General
17 Assembly is in session, the Joint Budget Committee.

18 (B) Subdivision (3)(A) of this section does not affect any
19 Medicaid state plan amendment or federal waiver in existence and implemented
20 as of the effective date of this section.

21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36