

State of Arkansas
89th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2013

A Bill

SENATE BILL 810

By: Senator Bledsoe
By: Representative Ferguson

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO ALLOW THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO BE
APPROPRIATELY REIMBURSED FOR MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND
SERVICES PROVIDED; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO ALLOW THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO BE
APPROPRIATELY REIMBURSED FOR MEDICAL
SUPPLIES AND SERVICES PROVIDED.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 20-7-129 is amended to read as follows:

20-7-129. Reimbursement for certain medical supplies or services.

(a) ~~The State Board of Health may adopt rules and regulations to~~
Department of Health may implement a reimbursement system to recover part or
all of the costs of ~~certain medical supplies or~~ delivering services.

(b) The system shall provide that fees shall be collected only from
those patients who are financially able to pay the fee and that no one shall
be denied services because of inability to pay.

(c) Funds derived from the fees shall be used exclusively for the
purchase of medical supplies or services necessary to enable the ~~Division of~~
~~Health of the Department of Health and Human Services~~ Department of Health to
continue to provide essential health care.

~~(d) Any fee established shall not exceed the cost of the service.~~

~~(e) All medications and treatment for tuberculosis patients shall be
excluded from any such fee system established under this section.~~



~~(f)(1)~~(d)(1) Funds collected by the division under this section shall be deposited into the State Treasury. These funds shall be credited to the Public Health Fund to be used exclusively for support of medical supplies or services.

(2) Subject to rules and regulations as may be implemented by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, all unexpended funds that pertain to fees collected shall be carried forward and made available for expenditure for the same purposes for any following fiscal year.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 20-7-114 is amended to read as follows:

20-7-114. Public health laboratory.

(a)(1) The State Board of Health shall establish, equip, and maintain a public health laboratory that shall be used for making:

(A) Analyses of foods and drugs to enforce pure food and drug laws;

(B) Analyses of the environment to investigate cases or suspected cases of human exposure; and

(C) Investigations of cases and suspected cases of malaria, diphtheria, typhoid fever, tuberculosis, epidemic cerebro-spinal meningitis, glanders, hookworm disease, rabies, and other infectious, contagious, communicable, and debilitating diseases.

(2) The public health laboratory shall be established and maintained at the ~~Division of Health of the Department of Health and Human Services~~ Department of Health under the direct supervision of the Director of the ~~Division of Health of the Department of Health and Human Services~~ Department of Health or his or her authorized representatives.

(b)(1)~~(A)~~ The ~~division~~ department may establish fees to be charged for performing analyses of various types of samples submitted to the public health laboratory for examination.

~~(B) The amount of fees established by the board shall not exceed the actual cost of performing the test.~~

(2) All fees levied and collected under this subsection are special revenues and shall be deposited into the State Treasury, there to be credited to the Public Health Fund.

~~(3) All rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to this subsection shall be reviewed by the House Interim Committee on Public Health,~~

~~Welfare, and Labor and the Senate Interim Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor or appropriate subcommittees thereof.~~

(c) Subject to rules and regulations as may be implemented by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, the disbursing officer for the ~~division~~ department may transfer all unexpended funds relative to the laboratory services that pertain to fees collected, as certified by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, to be carried forward and made available for expenditures for the same purpose for any following fiscal year.

~~(d) For the purpose of requesting and receiving laboratory tests from the division, "authorized persons" means:~~

~~(1) Public health nurses, nurse practitioners, and nurse midwives practicing under division protocols; and~~

~~(2) Physicians employed by the division.~~

APPROVED: 04/02/2013