

State of Arkansas
91st General Assembly
Regular Session, 2017

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1724

By: Representative Magie

By: Senator Irvin

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO CLARIFY THE HEALTHCARE PROCEDURE CODE TO BE
USED FOR REIMBURSEMENT FOR DIGITAL MAMMOGRAPHY
SERVICES; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO CLARIFY THE HEALTHCARE PROCEDURE CODE
TO BE USED FOR REIMBURSEMENT FOR DIGITAL
MAMMOGRAPHY SERVICES; AND TO DECLARE AN
EMERGENCY.

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

SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative findings.

The General Assembly finds that:

(1) Health insurance payments to healthcare providers are primarily driven by Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes that are listed in the annual edition of Current Procedural Terminology published by the American Medical Association;

(2) If a Current Procedural Terminology code is not available for a healthcare procedure or is not listed in the most recent annual edition of Current Procedural Terminology, temporary Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) G codes are used;

(3) In the struggle against breast cancer, digital mammography provides a powerful proven tool for early detection of disease, facilitating early intervention and increasing the chances for a complete recovery for



patients; and

(4) There is limited access to digital mammography service particularly in rural areas of the state because of the significant increase in the cost of equipment and time and the lack of adjustment of payment.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 23-79-140(e), concerning the reimbursement code for digital mammography, is amended to read as follows:

(e)(1) After January 1, 2014, an accident and health insurance company, hospital service corporation, health maintenance organization, or other accident and health insurance provider shall use the Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System G code for digital mammography services or the Current Procedural Terminology code as established for digital mammography and listed in the most recent annual edition of Current Procedural Terminology published by the American Medical Association.

(2) and reimburse those codes The codes used for digital mammography services described in subdivision (e)(1) of this section shall be reimbursed at a minimum of one and five-tenths (1.5) times the Medicare reimbursement rate for those codes until a Current Procedural Terminology code is established.

SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that a Current Procedural Terminology code for digital mammography is available; that an update to Arkansas law is necessary to address the new Current Procedural Terminology code for digital mammography; and that this act is immediately necessary because of the need to maintain coverage and provide proper reimbursement for digital mammography. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

(1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

(2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill; or

(3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.

APPROVED: 03/15/2017