

State of Arkansas
91st General Assembly
Regular Session, 2017

As Engrossed: S3/13/17
A Bill

SENATE BILL 642

By: Senator Rapert
By: Representative Payton

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO ALLOW MEDIGAP COVERAGE, ALSO KNOWN AS
MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT INSURANCE, TO BE PURCHASED IN
ARKANSAS FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES WHO ARE
UNDER SIXTY-FIVE (65) YEARS OF AGE; TO REQUIRE THE
STATE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT TO AMEND STATE INSURANCE
DEPARTMENT RULE 27; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO ALLOW MEDIGAP COVERAGE, ALSO KNOWN AS
MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT INSURANCE, TO BE
PURCHASED IN ARKANSAS FOR INDIVIDUALS
WITH DISABILITIES WHO ARE UNDER SIXTY-
FIVE (65) YEARS OF AGE; AND TO REQUIRE AN
AMENDMENT TO RULE 27.

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

SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative findings and intent.

(a) The General Assembly finds that:

(1) Arkansans who are under sixty-five (65) years of age and have Medicare due to a disability are unable to purchase certain policies of Medigap coverage, also known as Medicare supplement insurance, under State Insurance Department Rule 27; and

(2) The exclusion of the Medigap coverage option under State Insurance Department Rule 27 may create an undue financial burden on Arkansas residents.



(b) It is the intent of the General Assembly to ensure that Arkansans have access to Medigap coverage that is currently available to individuals with disabilities residing in other states.

(c)(1) The State Insurance Department shall amend State Insurance Department Rule 27 to allow for the sale and purchase of certain policies of Medigap coverage by Arkansans who are under sixty-five (65) years of age and have Medicare due to a disability.

(2) On or before January 1, 2018, the department shall submit its proposed amendment of the rule under subdivision (c)(1) of this section to the Senate Committee on Insurance and Commerce for review and approval.

(3) The department shall include with its proposed amendment of the rule under subdivision (c)(1) of this section:

(A) Written findings that address the Medigap premium assessment process; and

(B) A written description of specific efforts the department has taken to ensure that Medigap premiums that are made available under the proposed rule are competitively priced.

/s/Rapert

APPROVED: 03/27/2017