

State of Arkansas
93rd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2021

As Engrossed: S4/5/21

A Bill

SENATE BILL 395

By: Senator Irvin

By: Representatives M. Gray, D. Ferguson

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO MODIFY THE ANNUAL CAP ON DIAGNOSTIC
LABORATORY SERVICES IN THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO MODIFY THE ANNUAL CAP ON DIAGNOSTIC
LABORATORY SERVICES IN THE ARKANSAS
MEDICAID PROGRAM.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 77, Subchapter 1, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

20-77-140. Diagnostic laboratory services.

(a) The General Assembly finds that:

(1) The national coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) emergency has emphasized the critical importance of laboratory testing for diagnosing disease and promoting health;

(2) There is a disparity in the scope of laboratory testing services that are covered by the Arkansas Medicaid Program;

(3) Often, radiology services are grouped with diagnostic laboratory services;

(4) Radiology services are more expensive than diagnostic laboratory services and greatly reduce the services that a beneficiary can receive;

(5) The Arkansas Medicaid Program only covers up to five hundred



dollars (\$500) for all diagnostic laboratory services, including radiology; and

(6) This disparity in services should be reduced or eliminated.

(b) The program shall set the annual cap for:

(1) Diagnostic laboratory services, not including radiology services, of at least five hundred dollars (\$500); and

(2) Radiology services of at least five hundred dollars (\$500).

(c) Any laboratory or diagnostic procedure that is an essential health benefit does not count towards the caps described in subsection (b) of this section.

(d) The Department of Human Services shall apply for any federal waiver, Medicaid state plan amendment, or other authorization necessary to implement this section.

/s/Irvin

APPROVED: 4/25/21