

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
89th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2013

As Engrossed: S4/8/13

A Bill

SENATE BILL 888

By: Senators Bledsoe, *Irvin*
By: Representative *Ferguson*

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE PARITY FOR MAMMOGRAPHY SERVICES REIMBURSEMENT; TO REQUIRE PAYMENT OF AT LEAST THE MEDICARE RELATIVE VALUE UNIT RATE FOR DIGITAL MAMMOGRAPHY UNTIL A CPT CODE IS ESTABLISHED; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO PROVIDE PARITY FOR MAMMOGRAPHY SERVICES REIMBURSEMENT.

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

SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative findings.

The General Assembly finds that:

(a) The General Assembly finds that:

(1) Health insurance payments to healthcare providers are primarily driven by Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes;

(2) If a Current Procedural Terminology code is not available for a healthcare procedure, temporary Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) G codes are used until a Current Procedural Terminology code is established;

(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; 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, concerning insurance coverage for mammograms, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

(e) 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 and reimburse those codes 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.

/s/Bledsoe