

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

State of Arkansas
90th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2015

As Engrossed: S2/12/15
A Bill

SENATE BILL 312

By: Senator A. Clark

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO END ENROLLMENT IN THE HEALTH CARE INDEPENDENCE PROGRAM; TO TERMINATE COVERAGE UNDER THE HEALTH CARE INDEPENDENCE PROGRAM ON DECEMBER 31, 2016; TO RESTORE MEDICAID WAIVER PROGRAMS PREVIOUSLY ENDED DUE TO THE HEALTH CARE INDEPENDENCE PROGRAM;

Subtitle

TO END ENROLLMENT IN THE HEALTH CARE INDEPENDENCE PROGRAM; TO RESTORE MEDICAID WAIVER PROGRAMS PREVIOUSLY ENDED DUE TO THE HEALTH CARE INDEPENDENCE PROGRAM.

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

SECTION 1. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. DO NOT CODIFY. Health Care Independence Program Enrollment Termination – Restoration of Previous Medicaid Waiver Programs.

(a)(1) Except as provided in subdivision (a)(2) of this section, on and after December 31, 2016, the Department of Human Services shall terminate services, coverage, or premium assistance to persons enrolled in the Health Care Independence Program.

(2) Subdivision (a)(1) of this section does not prohibit the payment of expenses incurred before December 31, 2016, by persons participating in the program who were determined to be more effectively covered through the traditional Arkansas Medicaid Program.

(3) A person enrolled in the Health Care Independence Program shall continue to receive coverage under the traditional Medicaid program if



the person was previously eligible for the traditional Medicaid program or a Medicaid waiver program in this state before October 1, 2013.

(b) The department shall submit and seek approval for appropriate state plan amendments or federal waivers, or both, to eliminate the eligibility for qualified family members and individuals as described under 42 C.F.R. § 435.119, as it existed on January 1, 2015.

(c) Subject to the approval of the General Assembly and the Governor, the department may seek approval for appropriate state plan amendments or federal waivers, or both, to restore Medicaid programs that were ended due to the implementation of the Health Care Independence Program.

SECTION 2. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. DO NOT CODIFY. Health Care Independence Program Enrollment Freeze.

(a) It is the intent of the General Assembly that:

(1) Individuals are not suddenly without insurance coverage after receiving insurance coverage; and

(2) The state does not enroll additional individuals in the last year of the Health Care Independence Program only to remove the insurance coverage and leave individuals without insurance coverage.

(b) The Department of Human Services shall submit and seek approval for appropriate state plan amendments or federal waivers, or both, to ensure that a freeze on enrollment in the Health Care Independence Program established by the Health Care Independence Act of 2013, § 20-77-2401 et seq., is effective on and after December 31, 2015.

/s/A. Clark