

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: S3/17/15
A Bill

SENATE BILL 980

By: Senator Hester

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO REGULATE THE PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES OF
THE STATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOL LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE
BOARD; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO REGULATE THE PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES
OF THE STATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOL LIFE AND
HEALTH INSURANCE BOARD.

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

SECTION 1. Uncodified Acts 2013 (2nd Ex. Sess.), Nos. 3 and 6, § 10, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

SECTION 3. DO NOT CODIFY. Pilot Program on coverage for morbid obesity diagnosis and treatment.

(a)(1)(A) A state and public school employees health benefit plan that is offered, issued, or renewed on or after January 1, 2012, shall offer coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of morbid obesity.

(B) The cost of coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of morbid obesity offered under subdivision (a)(1)(A) of this section shall not exceed:

(i) Three million dollars (\$3,000,000) annually for the Arkansas State Employees Health Benefit Plan; or

(ii) Three million dollars (\$3,000,000) annually for the Arkansas Public School Employees Health Benefit Plan.

(2) The coverage for morbid obesity offered under subdivision (a)(1) of this section includes without limitation coverage for bariatric



surgery including:

- (A) Gastric bypass surgery;*
- (B) Adjustable gastric banding surgery;*
- (C) Sleeve gastrectomy surgery; and*
- (D) Duodenal switch biliopancreatic diversion.*

(b) The coverage for morbid obesity diagnosis and treatment offered under this subchapter does not diminish or limit benefits otherwise allowable under a state and public school employees health benefit plan.

(c) The State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Board ~~shall~~ may discontinue or suspend a plan option offered under subsection (a) of this section, if the board ~~determines and the~~ can demonstrate adjustments are necessary to ensure the financial soundness and overall well-being of the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Program, and the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Program Legislative Task Force has reviewed and approved the board's recommendation.

/s/Hester