

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

State of Arkansas
92nd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2019

As Engrossed: S4/1/19
A Bill

SENATE BILL 634

By: Senator Bledsoe
By: Representative D. Ferguson

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM TO COVER OPIOID ANTAGONISTS AS A PHARMACY BENEFIT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO REQUIRE THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM TO COVER OPIOID ANTAGONISTS AS A PHARMACY BENEFIT.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 77, Subchapter 4, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

20-77-406. Opioid antagonist.

(a) The Arkansas Medicaid Program:

(1) Shall cover any drug approved on or before the effective date of this section by the United States Food and Drug Administration as an opioid antagonist for the prevention of relapse to opioid dependence and other substance use disorders; and

(2) May:

(A) Cover any drug approved after the effective date of this section by the United States Food and Drug Administration as an opioid antagonist for the prevention of relapse to opioid dependence and other substance use disorders; and

(B) Replace a covered opioid antagonist for the prevention of relapse to opioid dependence and other substance use disorders that has



been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration with another opioid antagonist if the other opioid antagonist is:

(i) Approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for the prevention of relapse to opioid dependence and other substance use disorders;

(ii) Proven to be more effective treatment for the prevention of relapse to opioid dependence and other substance use disorders than the existing covered opioid antagonist; and

(iii) Proven to be more cost-effective than the existing covered opioid antagonist.

(b) Coverage as described under subsection (a) of this section shall be a pharmacy benefit under the Arkansas Medicaid Program.

/s/Bledsoe