

By: Representative Vaught

## HOUSE RESOLUTION

TO ENCOURAGE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ADDRESS ISSUES  
OF OVERSIGHT REGARDING MENTAL HEALTHCARE SERVICE  
PROVIDERS THAT CONTRACT WITH THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

### Subtitle

TO ENCOURAGE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO  
ADDRESS ISSUES OF OVERSIGHT REGARDING  
MENTAL HEALTHCARE SERVICE PROVIDERS THAT  
CONTRACT WITH THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

WHEREAS, mental healthcare services are vital to this state; and

WHEREAS, thirty-seven and eight-tenths percent (37.8%) of adults surveyed in Arkansas reported symptoms of anxiety or depression, or both, from September 29 to October 11, 2021; and

WHEREAS, in 2018-2019, four and seven-tenths percent (4.7%) of adults surveyed in Arkansas reported serious thoughts of suicide in the past year; and

WHEREAS, mental healthcare service providers in this state often contract with state agencies to provide mental healthcare services to the citizens of this state; and

WHEREAS, contracts with these mental healthcare service providers often do not provide for oversight by the state agency unless a complaint is made about the mental healthcare service provider; and



WHEREAS, service issues, such as turning patients away without treatment, have been reported regarding mental healthcare service providers that contract with the state; and

WHEREAS, additional oversight regarding mental healthcare service providers that contract with the state should be required to ensure the health and safety of the citizens of this state,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the House of Representatives encourage the General Assembly to address issues of oversight regarding mental healthcare service providers that contract with the State of Arkansas.