

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

State of Arkansas  
95th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2025

As Engrossed: H2/10/25

## A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1287

By: Representative L. Johnson

By: Senator Irvin

### For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE HEALTHCARE CONTRACTING SIMPLIFICATION ACT; TO DEFINE "DOWNCODE" UNDER THE HEALTHCARE CONTRACTING SIMPLIFICATION ACT; TO REQUIRE NOTIFICATION BY CONTRACTING ENTITIES OF DOWNCODING CERTAIN HEALTHCARE SERVICES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

TO AMEND THE HEALTHCARE CONTRACTING SIMPLIFICATION ACT; TO DEFINE "DOWNCODE" UNDER THE HEALTHCARE CONTRACTING SIMPLIFICATION ACT; AND TO REQUIRE NOTIFICATION BY CONTRACTING ENTITIES OF DOWNCODING.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 23-99-1202, concerning definitions used under the Healthcare Contracting Simplification Act, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

(14) "Downcode" means to change a claim to a lower-cost healthcare service than what was contained in the original claim that a healthcare provider submitted or billed to a contracting entity.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 23, Chapter 99, Subchapter 12, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

23-99-1211. Notice required for downcode of claim.

A contracting entity that downcodes a claim submitted by a healthcare



provider shall provide notice to the healthcare provider of the downcoding within thirty (30) days of processing the claim.

*/s/L. Johnson*