

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: H3/31/25 H4/9/25

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1332

By: Representative Pilkington

By: Senator J. Scott

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM TO
EVALUATE CLAIMS FOR DIAGNOSES FREQUENCY OF OBESITY-
RELATED CONDITIONS AND PRESENT THE COSTS; TO ALLOW
HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS TO OFFER OPTIONAL COVERAGE OF
UNITED STATES FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION-APPROVED
ANTI-OBESITY MEDICATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO REQUIRE THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM
TO EVALUATE CLAIMS FOR DIAGNOSES
FREQUENCY OF OBESITY-RELATED CONDITIONS
AND PRESENT THE COSTS.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 77, Subchapter 154, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

20-77-154. Obesity-related conditions.

(a) The Department of Human Services shall evaluate claims level data for diagnoses frequency of obesity-related conditions including without limitation Type 2 diabetes, pre-diabetes, cardiovascular disease, heart failure, hypertension, chronic kidney disease, metabolic dysfunction-associated steatohepatitis, liver disease, obstructive sleep apnea, osteoarthritis, and other obesity-related conditions within the Medicaid population.

(b) The department shall document the cost of these obesity-related conditions and show trend data, year over year of the rising trends of both



the diagnoses frequency and cost to the state to present at least sixty (60) days before a regular or fiscal legislative session to the:

- (1) House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor; and
- (2) Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 23, Chapter 79, Subchapter 1, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

23-79-169. Optional coverage for United States Food and Drug Administration-approved anti-obesity medications – Definition.

(a) As used in this section, "United States Food and Drug Administration-approved anti-obesity medication" means a medication approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration with an indication for weight management in patients with chronic obesity.

(b)(1) A health benefit plan that is offered, issued, or renewed in this state shall allow the policyholder the option to purchase coverage for United States Food and Drug Administration-approved anti-obesity medications.

(2) The health benefit plan may adopt standards and criteria that a covered person shall meet to be eligible for United States Food and Drug Administration-approved anti-obesity medications consistent with standards established by rule of the State Insurance Department.

(c) Subsection (b) of this section does not apply to a government self-insured plan.

/s/Pilkington