

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

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2025

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1584

By: Representative L. Johnson

By: Senator C. Penzo

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO REQUIRE INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENTS OF A
BENEFICIARY IN THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM FOR
HOME- AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES BE COMPLETED
WITHIN A CERTAIN TIME; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO REQUIRE INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENTS OF A
BENEFICIARY IN THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID
PROGRAM FOR HOME- AND COMMUNITY-BASED
SERVICES BE COMPLETED WITHIN A CERTAIN
TIME.

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

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

20-77-154. Timeframe for eligibility determination for home- and community-based services – Independent assessments for home- and community-based services.

(a) The Arkansas Medicaid Program shall ensure eligibility determination, approval, and authorization of a beneficiary for home- and community-based services within a waiver under § 1915(c) of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1396 et seq., are completed within thirty (30) days of the initial application.

(b) If the program contracts with a third party to perform an independent assessment of a beneficiary for home- and community-based services, the third party shall complete the independent assessment within



thirty (30) days of the initial application under subsection (a) of this section.

(c) The Department of Human Services shall:

(1) Implement an abbreviated independent assessment process for beneficiaries who have previously been approved for home- and community-based services through an independent assessment, including without limitation a desk review, for beneficiaries who receive home- and community-based services within a waiver under § 1915(c) of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1396 et seq.; and

(2) Apply for any federal waiver, Medicaid state plan amendment, or other authorization necessary to implement this section.