

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

## A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1588

By: Representative McAlindon

### For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE APPROVALS REQUIRED FROM THE GOVERNOR AND CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER OF THE STATE BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES CAN TAKE CERTAIN ACTIONS RELATED TO THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM; TO REQUIRE APPROVAL OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES SEEKS OR IMPLEMENTS AN EXPANSION OF COVERAGE IN THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

TO REQUIRE APPROVAL OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES SEEKS OR IMPLEMENTS AN EXPANSION OF COVERAGE FOR THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 20-77-110 is amended to read as follows:

20-77-110. Increase in reimbursement rate or cost to state – Expansion of coverage.

Notwithstanding any other provision in federal law or departmental commitment which may exist to the contrary, the Department of Human Services shall not:

(1)(A) Increase ~~increase~~ any reimbursement rate to any provider or provider groups supported in whole or in part by funds administered by the department, ~~nor shall it~~ without first seeking and receiving the approval of



the Governor and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

(B) If reimbursement rates are decreased, the department shall report to the Legislative Council concerning the reasons and justification for the decrease in reimbursement rates;

(2) Adopt ~~adopt~~ any other rule or amendment to the Arkansas Medicaid Program that would result in an obligation of the general revenues of the state without first seeking and receiving the approval of the Governor and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State; or

(3)(A) Apply for or implement any rule or amendment to the Arkansas Medicaid Program or a Medicaid waiver from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services that would expand coverage to any additional individuals or class of individuals and result in an obligation of the state without first obtaining approval by a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote from either the Legislative Council or, if the General Assembly is in session, the Joint Budget Committee.

(B) Subdivision (3)(A) of this section does not affect any Medicaid state plan amendment or federal waiver in existence and implemented as of the effective date of this section.

*/s/McAlindon*