

Hall of the House of Representatives
95th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2025
Amendment Form

Subtitle of House Bill 1424

TO MANDATE COVERAGE FOR SEVERE OBESITY TREATMENTS.

Amendment No. 1 to House Bill 1424

Amend House Bill 1424 as originally introduced:

Page 1, delete line 19, and substitute the following:

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

20-77-154. Treatment of severe obesity.

(a) The Arkansas Medicaid Program shall reimburse for the treatment of diseases and conditions caused by severe obesity.

(b) The coverage under subsection (a) of this section shall include coverage for:

(1) Bariatric surgery, as recognized by the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery;

(2) Preoperative care for bariatric surgery; and

(3) Post-operative care for bariatric surgery.

(c) This section does not require the Arkansas Medicaid Program to provide coverage for injectable drugs to lower glucose levels or any other drugs prescribed for weight loss.

(d) The Department of Human Services shall apply for any federal waiver, Medicaid state plan amendments, or other authority necessary to implement this section.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 23, Chapter 79, is amended to add an"

AND



Page 1, delete lines 30 through 36, and substitute the following:

"(3)(A) "Health benefit plan" means an individual, blanket, or group plan or a policy or contract for healthcare services offered, issued, renewed, delivered, or extended in this state by a healthcare insurer."

AND

Page 2, delete lines 1 and 2

AND

Page 4, line 33, delete "Secretary of the Department of Human Services and the"

AND

Page 5, line 1, delete "secretary or"

The Amendment was read _____
By: Representative L. Johnson
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Chief Clerk