

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2025

As Engrossed: H1/16/25

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1009

4
5 Representatives A. Collins, T. Shephard, Springer
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO ALLOW PREGNANCY TO BE A QUALIFYING EVENT
10 FOR ENROLLMENT IN CERTAIN HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS; TO
11 AUTHORIZE THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM TO MAKE
12 PRESUMPTIVE ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATIONS FOR PREGNANT
13 WOMEN; TO ALLOW PREGNANCY TO BE A QUALIFYING EVENT
14 FOR ENROLLMENT IN THE STATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOL LIFE
15 AND HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

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18 TO ALLOW PREGNANCY TO BE A QUALIFYING
19 EVENT FOR ENROLLMENT IN CERTAIN HEALTH
20 BENEFIT PLANS.
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23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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25 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 77, Subchapter 1, is
26 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

27 20-77-154. Presumptive eligibility for pregnant women.

28 (a) The Arkansas Medicaid Program shall make presumptive eligibility
29 determinations for pregnant women who are applying for the program to improve
30 access to prenatal care and to allow prenatal care to be delivered
31 immediately while waiting for a full program application to be processed.

32 (b) The program may designate one (1) or more qualified entities to
33 screen for eligibility and immediately enroll pregnant women into the
34 program.
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36 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 21, Chapter 5, Subchapter 4, is amended



1 to add an additional section to read as follows:

2 21-5-425. Pregnancy – Qualifying event.

3 An employee or a dependent of an employee who previously declined
4 enrollment in the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Program
5 is eligible to enroll in the program as a result of pregnancy as a qualifying
6 event.

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8 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code Title 23, Chapter 85, Subchapter 1, is
9 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

10 23-85-141. Pregnancy – Qualifying event.

11 An insurer issuing or renewing a policy under this chapter shall allow
12 an individual to enroll in the policy as a result of pregnancy as a
13 qualifying event.

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15 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code Title 23, Chapter 86, Subchapter 1, is
16 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

17 23-86-124. Pregnancy – Qualifying event.

18 An insurer issuing or renewing a policy under this chapter shall allow
19 an individual to enroll in the policy as a result of pregnancy as a
20 qualifying event.

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22 SECTION 5. DO NOT CODIFY. EFFECTIVE DATE. This act is effective on
23 and after January 1, 2026.

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25 /s/A. Collins
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