

1 State of Arkansas
2 89th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2013
4

As Engrossed: H3/28/13

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2097

5 By: Representative Murdock
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO IMPROVE ACCESSIBILITY TO HEALTH CARE IN
9 ARKANSAS BY CLARIFYING THE PROCESS NECESSARY FOR AN
10 ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSE TO *QUALIFY* FOR PRESCRIPTIVE
11 AUTHORITY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

14 THE HEALTH CARE ACCESS IMPROVEMENT ACT.
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18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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20 *SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 23-79-114, concerning insurance payment for*
21 *health services performed by professionals not licensed under the Arkansas*
22 *Medical Practices Act, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as*
23 *follows:*

24 *(h)(1) Notwithstanding a provision of an individual or group policy of*
25 *accident and health insurance or a provision of a policy, contract, plan, or*
26 *agreement for hospital or medical service or indemnity, if a policy,*
27 *contract, plan, or agreement provides for payment or reimbursement for a*
28 *health service provided by an advanced practice nurse with prescriptive*
29 *authority who is licensed under § 17-87-310 or a person licensed under the*
30 *Arkansas Medical Practices Act, § 17-95-201 et seq., § 17-95-301 et seq., and*
31 *§ 17-95-401 et seq., the person entitled to benefits or the person providing*
32 *health service under the policy, contract, plan, or agreement is entitled to*
33 *payment or reimbursement for the health service on an equal basis for the*
34 *service if the health service is provided by a person licensed as an advance*
35 *practice nurse with prescriptive authority who is operating within his or her*
36 *area of competence.*



1 (2) A person entitled to benefits under this subsection shall
2 not be denied freedom of choice to select a practitioner licensed under the
3 Arkansas Medical Practices Act, § 17-95-201 et seq., § 17-95-301 et seq., and
4 § 17-95-401 et seq., or an advance practice nurse with prescriptive authority
5 who is licensed under § 17-87-310, by an insurer or agency or an employee of
6 the insurer or by a department, agency, or employee of this state.

7 (3) This subsection does not enlarge or diminish the scope of
8 practice of an advance practice nurse under § 17-87-310.

9 (4) The purpose of this subsection is to ensure that a person
10 licensed under the Arkansas Medical Practices Act, § 17-95-201 et seq., § 17-
11 95-301 et seq., and § 17-95-401 et seq., or a person licensed as an advanced
12 practice nurse under § 17-87-310 is entitled to the same method of payment
13 for or reimbursement for health service on an equal basis for administering
14 the same health service.

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17 /s/Murdock
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