

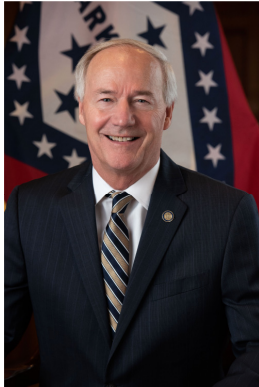
94th General Assembly Recap

August 25, 2023



Arkansas Executive Hand-Off Jan. 9, 2023

GOVERNOR ASA HUTCHINSON



GOVERNOR-ELECT SARAH SANDERS



94th General Assembly Membership

SENATE – SENATOR HESTER

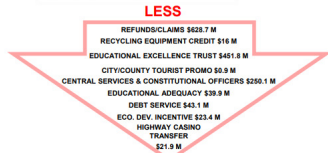
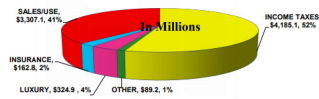
- 5 Women / 30 Men
- 29 R / 6 D
- 13 Freshmen
 - 5 true freshmen
 - 7 previous Representatives
 - 1 previous Senator

HOUSE – REPRESENTATIVE SHEPHERD

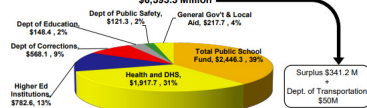
- 26 Women / 74 Men
- 82 R / 18 D
- 26 Freshmen
 - 14 serving 2nd term
 - 12 serving 3rd term
 - 16 serving 4th term
 - 10 serving 6th term
 - 6 serving 7th term

State General Revenue

FY2023-24 ESTIMATED GROSS GENERAL REVENUES
\$8,069.1 Million or \$8.06 Billion (11/10/2022 Forecast)



DISTRIBUTION OF FY2024 "NET AVAILABLE" GENERAL REVENUES¹
\$6,593.3 Million



¹Distribution to State Agencies and Institutions: \$6,202.1 Million RSA A+B
Bureau of Legislative Research

- Revenue Stabilization (Act 888)
- State Agencies, Departments, Higher Ed, General Government, Local Support - \$6.2 billion



General Revenue Distribution

What Your Arkansas Tax Dollar Pays For



2¢ Dept. of Public Safety	41.8¢ Public School Fund & Dept. of Education	9.2¢ Dept. of Corrections	12.6¢ Institutions of Higher Education	30.9¢ DHS & Dept. of Health	3.5¢ General Gov't & Local Aid
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Excludes "Off The Top" deductions and payments such as income tax refunds, claims, debt services, etc.



Hospital Legislation - 2023

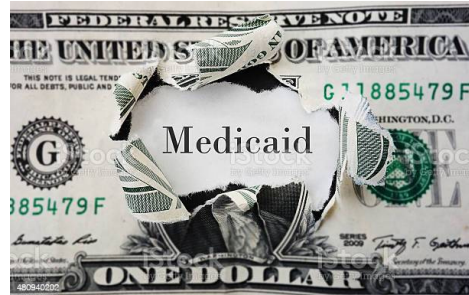


- Council on Government Relations
- AHA Board of Directors
 - Medicaid Expansion
 - WORKFORCE
 - WORKFORCE
 - WORKFORCE
 - Payer Issues
 - Prior Authorizations
 - Payment Rates
 - Defense



PRIORITY 1: Medicaid

- Act 865 – Division of Medical Services (ARHOME)
 - Appropriation \$9.95 billion
 - State \$1.9 for DHS & Health
- Act 89 – additional \$450 million PHE
- Act 494 – requires Medicaid coverage for behavioral health services or screenings in hospital outpatient or physician clinics



Workforce



- Act 663/844 – changes membership of the GME Residency Expansion Board (appointments)
- Act 303 – authorizes PAs to be identified as a treating provider for insurance billing and claims
- Act 313 – posting notice of assault felony; allows a work address
- Act 674 – creates the Clinical Nurse Education Portal at ADH
- Act 872 – allows clinical nurse specialists to attain full, independent practice authority
- Act 673 – Nursing Board to create a data repository to collect report, track, and trend data regarding nursing education and nursing workforce
- Act 672 – nursing earn-to-learn programs



Payor Issues

- Act 87 – clarifies that out-of-state healthcare insurer is subject to the PA Transparency Act
- Act 501 – clarifies the appeal process for and the timeliness related to an appeal for a denial of an urgent healthcare service
- Act 502 – healthcare payors must use an electronic record to satisfy a record request of a provider
- Act 576 – prohibits a health insurer from leasing a healthcare contract or provider network; regulates the lease, rental, or sale of a healthcare contract or provider network to a TPA
- Act 626 – Farm Bureau Exempt from the Insurance Code



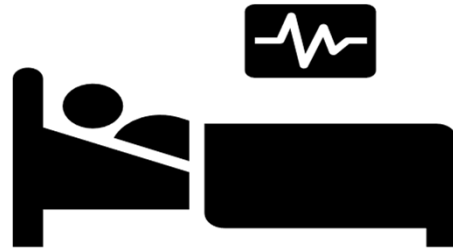
Gold Card (Prior Authorization) – Act 575



- Begins January 1, 2024
 - Lookback January 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022
- PASSEs and marketplace begins January 1, 2025
- Rx and therapeutics January 1, 2025
- Appeals process

Rural Emergency Hospital – Act 59

- Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021
- CAH or less than 50 beds (12/27/2020)
- No inpatient
- No 340B
- 5% enhanced Medicare outpatient rate
- CY 2023 – additional \$272,866 per month
- Can have SNF services in a distinct part of the building
- REH CoPs are initially very similar to outpatient CAH CoPs
- Effective February 13, 2023



Pharmacy



- Act 333 – health insurance rebates from manufacturers exempt from FOI; clarifies an enrollee's cost sharing at point-of-sale
- Act 233 – hospital continuity of care endorsement
- Failed HB 1311 – retail pharmacy permit for NFP and governmental hospitals



Emergency Medical Services

- Act 54 – reduces community paramedic training hours to 160 hours
- Act 258 – licensed voluntary emergency medical responders to be reimbursed by Medicaid and commercial insurance
- Act 578 – regulates contracts for PA ground ambulance; allows for PA for air
- Act 597 – establishes minimum allowable reimbursement for ground ambulance services
- Act 480 – triage, treat, and transport (with telemedicine)



Women's and Infant Health

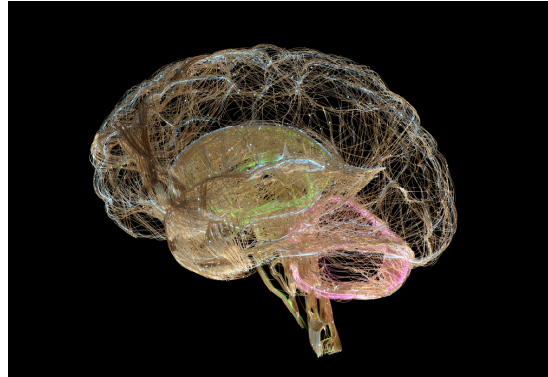


- Act 68 & Act 348 – Safe Haven
 - Medical staff at a hospital
 - Parental rights termination
- Act 316 – depression screening for birth mother's within 6 weeks of giving birth
- Act 462 – depression screening for pregnant women covered by Medicaid
- Act 490 – universal newborn screening US Secretary of HHS list



Mental and Behavioral Health

- Act 464 – Psychiatric Resident Treatment Facilities license to lapse after 12 months
- Act 806 – standards for PRTF for Children (DHS)
- Act 615 – Arkansas Medicaid must apply for a grant for a psychiatric collaborative care model
- Act 512 – legislative study on Mental and Behavioral Health
- Act 513 – supplemental reimbursement for physician rates in PCMH for preventive mental and behavioral health services



AHA
ARKANSAS HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

Death Investigations and Coroners



- Act 553 – Coroners send deaths considered apparent drug, alcohol, or poison toxicity to the Crime Lab
- Act 33 – Coroners death investigation training remotely provided
- Act 340 – Coroners' reports exempt from FOI during an investigation
- Act 392 – Crime Lab rapid DNA technology permitted

AHA
ARKANSAS HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

Miscellaneous

- Act 716 – Clergy Visitation “No Patient Left Alone”
- Act 558 - Sexual Assault Kits required to be submitted to the Crime Lab (even anonymous)
- Act 783 – penalties added for abuse, neglect, and exploitation of a vulnerable person (age 69)
- Act 335 – dementia training required for staff in assisted living facilities
- Act 49 – surrogate authority to apply for public benefits under the Arkansas Healthcare Decisions Act
- Act 830 – Patient Right to Know Amendments
- Act 805 – insurance cover prosthetic devices for athletics or recreation
- Act 580 – No Surprises Act state audit process rules required
- Act 482 – comply with federal price transparency law



Questions?

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