

1 State of Arkansas
2 92nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2019
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1473

5 By: Representative J. Mayberry
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO REQUIRE HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS OF MAMMOGRAPHY
9 SERVICES TO NOTIFY AND INFORM PATIENTS ABOUT BREAST
10 DENSITY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

12
13 TO REQUIRE HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS OF
14 MAMMOGRAPHY SERVICES TO NOTIFY AND INFORM
15 PATIENTS ABOUT BREAST DENSITY.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 15, Subchapter 13, is
22 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

23 20-15-1305. Breast density notification and information.

24 (a) As used in this section, "dense breast tissue" means
25 heterogeneously dense or extremely dense tissue as defined by nationally
26 recognized guidelines or systems for breast imagining reporting of
27 mammography screening.

28 (b) If a mammogram of a patient demonstrates dense breast tissue, the
29 healthcare provider of mammography services shall include in a summary of the
30 mammography report sent to the patient in accordance with the federal
31 Mammography Quality Standards Act a notice that is substantially similar to
32 the following:

33 "Your mammogram indicates that you have dense breast tissue. Dense
34 breast tissue is normal and identified on mammograms in about fifty percent
35 (50%) of women. Dense breast tissue can make it more difficult to detect
36 cancer on a mammogram and may be associated with an increased risk for breast



1 cancer. Despite these limitations, screening mammograms have been proven to
2 save lives. Continue to have routine screening mammography whether or not
3 additional exams are suggested for you. This information is provided to
4 raise your awareness of the impact of breast density on cancer detection.
5 For further information about dense breast tissue, as well as other breast
6 cancer risk factors, contact your breast imaging healthcare provider."

7 (c) A healthcare facility that performs mammography may update the
8 language in subsection (b) of this section to reflect advances in science and
9 technology if the healthcare facility continues to:

10 (1) Notify patients about dense breast tissue and the effects of
11 dense breast tissue on the accuracy of mammograms; and

12 (2) Encourage patients to discuss the issue with their
13 healthcare provider.

14 (d) This section does not create a duty of care or other legal
15 obligation beyond the duty of notification described in this section.

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