1 State of Arkansas

2 91st General Assembly

3 Fiscal Session, 2018 SR 8

4

5 By: Senator K. Ingram

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7 **SENATE RESOLUTION**

8 TO AUTHORIZE THE INTRODUCTION OF A NONAPPROPRIATION

9 BILL CONCERNING THE ASSESSMENT FEE ON HOSPITALS.

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12 **Subtitle**

13 TO AUTHORIZE THE INTRODUCTION OF A

14 NONAPPROPRIATION BILL CONCERNING THE

15 ASSESSMENT FEE ON HOSPITALS.

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18 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE

19 STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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21 THAT Senator Ingram is authorized to introduce a bill which, as introduced,

22 will read substantially as follows:

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24 "For An Act To Be Entitled

25 AN ACT TO AMEND THE ASSESSMENT FEE ON HOSPITALS TO INCLUDE CERTAIN HOSPITALS;

26 TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

27

28 Subtitle

29 TO AMEND THE ASSESSMENT FEE ON HOSPITALS TO INCLUDE CERTAIN HOSPITALS; AND TO

30 DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

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32 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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34 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 20-77-1905(a), concerning the exemptions

35 under the assessment fee on hospitals, is amended to read as follows:

36 (a) The following hospitals shall be exempt from the assessment

1   imposed under § 20-77-1902 unless the exemption is adjudged to be

2   unconstitutional or otherwise determined to be invalid:

3   (1)(A) Hospitals that are not privately operated hospitals.

4   (B) Subdivision (a)(1)(A) of this section does not include

5   border city university affiliated pediatric teaching hospitals;

6   (2) Hospitals licensed by the Department of Health as

7   rehabilitation hospitals; and

8   (3) Specialty hospitals.

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10   SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 20-77-1907(e), concerning the notice of

11   assessment relating to the assessment fee on hospitals, is amended to read as

12   follows:

13   (e) A hospital subject to an assessment under this subchapter that has

14   not been previously licensed as a hospital in Arkansas and that commences

15   hospital operations during a state fiscal year, or a hospital that otherwise

16   becomes subject to the assessment, shall pay the required assessment computed

17   under § 20-77-1902 and shall be eligible for hospital access payments under §

18   20-77-1908 on the date specified in rules promulgated by the division under

19   the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.

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21   SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the

22   General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the safety and health of the

23   children of Arkansas need additional protections; that changes in the law

24   will allow the state to impose a hospital assessment on additional hospitals

25   that provide pediatric care for children; that without the assessment, a

26   pediatric hospital will no longer be available to meet the needs of children

27   in the state; and that this act is immediately necessary to ensure

28   substantial funding in the upcoming fiscal year and to ensure continuing

29   health care for all children of Arkansas. Therefore, an emergency is declared

30   to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of

31   the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

32   (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

33   (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,

34   the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the

35   bill; or

36   (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is

1   overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto."

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