

NOTICE OF RULE MAKING

The Director of the Division of Medical Services hereby issues the following proposed medical assistance rule(s) under one or more of the following chapters or sections of the Arkansas Code: 20-10-211(a), 20-10-203(b), 20-76-433, 25-10-129, and Title 20, Chapter 77.

Effective January 1, 2016, Arkansas Medicaid removed the 24 day limit on all acute care, critical access acute care and rehabilitative hospital inpatient stays. This rule change ensures access to eligible beneficiaries. Effective for admissions on or after January 1, 2016, the per diem rate for inpatient hospital stays beyond twenty-four days will be reimbursed at \$400 per day. The reimbursed days beyond 24 will not be included with Medicaid cost settlements for participating hospitals. The budget impact associated with the change is \$16,684,800.

The proposed policy is available for review at the Division of Medical Services, Program Planning and Development, 2nd floor Donaghey Plaza South Building, 7th and Main Streets, P. O. Box 1437, Slot S295, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-1437. You may also access it on the Medicaid website (www.medicaid.state.ar.us), and download it from the "Proposed Rules For Public Comment" section of the website's *General* menu. Policy accessed from this location will be watermarked with the word "Proposed". All comments must be submitted, to the above address, in writing no later than October 24, 2015.

If you need this material in a different format, such as large print, contact Program Development and Quality Assurance at 501-320-6429.

The Arkansas Department of Human Services is in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act and is operated, managed and delivers services without regard to religion, disability, political affiliation, veteran status, age, race, color or national origin. **4501545928 EL**

Dawn Stehle, Director
Division of Medical Services