Employee Benefits Division (EBD)

December 8, 2022
What is EBD?

• Provide health insurance coverage for state and public school employees, family members and retirees

• Two plans:
  ● State Employees, Retirees and their Dependents
  ● Public School Employees, Retirees and their Dependents
  ● Combined, we cover about 158,000 lives across the state, with projected FY22 costs of about $840m
Some recent history . . .
Why should a member of the Arkansas General Assembly care?

- Decisions made at EBD affect constituents
  - Coverage decisions, billings, etc
- EBD is a publicly funded insurance plan
  - Changes to insurance coverage policies will impact EBD
- EBD is really expensive to the taxpayer
  - Joint Budget Committee will very likely be asked to consider increased funding over time on behalf of EBD
Act 112 of 2022

- Under Act 112 of 2022, bills “that will impose a new or increased cost obligation for health benefit plans, including pharmacy benefits, on an entity of the state shall . . .” have a fiscal impact statement attached to them.
  - Requiring coverage of certain procedures or pharmaceuticals
  - Limiting or prohibiting business practices
  - Anything that will impose a cost on the state

- And . . . “A bill affecting the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Program or that imposes a new or increased cost obligation for health benefit plans, including pharmacy benefits, on an entity of the state to be considered by the General Assembly at a regular session shall be introduced in the General Assembly during the first fifteen (15) calendar days of a regular session.
  - Need to get those bills filed by Jan. 23, 2023
Working with EBD

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- Please use this information!