



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 27**

February Session, 2012

Substitute Senate Bill No. 13

*Senate, March 19, 2012*

The Committee on Insurance and Real Estate reported through SEN. CRISCO of the 17th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## **AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF TELEMEDICINE SERVICES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section,  
2 "telemedicine" means the use of interactive audio, interactive video or  
3 interactive data communication in the delivery of medical advice,  
4 diagnosis, care or treatment, and includes the types of services  
5 described in subsection (d) of section 20-9 of the general statutes.  
6 "Telemedicine" does not include the use of facsimile or audio-only  
7 telephone.

8 (b) The Insurance Commissioner, in consultation with the  
9 Commissioner of Public Health, shall study telemedicine services that  
10 are provided in this state and other states to assess the benefits of and  
11 obstacles to state-wide implementation of such services. Such study  
12 shall examine the extent to which such services are covered under  
13 health insurance policies or health benefit plans in this state and other  
14 states, the types of services most commonly provided via telemedicine,  
15 the types of services for which telemedicine delivery has been shown

16 to be effective, the costs to patients, providers and insurers that are  
 17 associated with such services and how other states have addressed  
 18 licensing requirements for providers that provide telemedicine  
 19 services from without a state.

20 (c) Not later than January 1, 2013, the Insurance Commissioner shall  
 21 submit a report of such study, in accordance with the provisions of  
 22 section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of  
 23 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to  
 24 insurance and public health. Such report shall include an evaluation of  
 25 whether a requirement for health insurance policies and health benefit  
 26 plans in this state to cover telemedicine services to the extent such  
 27 services would be covered if they are provided through in-person  
 28 consultation would be deemed an additional mandated benefit for  
 29 purposes of the essential health benefits benchmark plan under the  
 30 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, P.L. 111-148, as amended  
 31 by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act, P.L. 111-152, as  
 32 both may be amended from time to time.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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**INS**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

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***OFA Fiscal Note******State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None***Explanation***

The bill requires the Department of Insurance to study telemedicine services in the state and to submit a report to the General Assembly. There is no fiscal impact.

***The Out Years******State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None

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**OLR Bill Analysis**

**sSB 13**

***AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF TELEMEDICINE SERVICES.***

**SUMMARY:**

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Insurance and Real Estate Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 18 Nay 0 (03/08/2012)