



General Assembly

February Session, 2012

Raised Bill No. 5483

LCO No. 1702

01702_____HS_

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:
(HS)

AN ACT CONCERNING COVERAGE OF TELEMEDICINE SERVICES UNDER MEDICAID.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2013*) (a) As used in this
2 section, "telemedicine" means the use of interactive audio, interactive
3 video or interactive data communication in the delivery of medical
4 advice, diagnosis, care or treatment, and includes the types of services
5 described in subsection (d) of section 20-9 of the general statutes and
6 42 CFR 410.78(a)(3). "Telemedicine" does not include the use of
7 facsimile or audio-only telephone.

8 (b) To the extent permitted by federal law, and where deemed
9 medically appropriate, in-person contact between a health care
10 provider and a patient shall not be required for health care services
11 delivered by telemedicine that otherwise would be eligible for
12 reimbursement under the state Medicaid plan. For purposes of this
13 section, "medically appropriate" means care that is (1) provided in a
14 timely manner and meets professionally recognized standards of
15 acceptable medical care; (2) delivered in the appropriate medical setting;
16 and (3) the least costly of multiple, equally-effective alternative treatments
17 or diagnostic modalities.

18 (c) The Commissioner of Social Services, in consultation with the
19 Commissioner of Public Health, shall adopt regulations, in accordance
20 with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, establishing
21 rates for cost reimbursement for telemedicine services provided to
22 Medicaid recipients. The commissioners shall consider, to the extent
23 applicable, reductions in travel costs by health care providers and
24 patients to deliver or to access health care services and such other
25 factors as the Commissioner of Social Services deems relevant.

26 (d) The Commissioner of Social Services shall apply, if necessary, to
27 the federal government for an amendment to the state Medicaid plan
28 to cover and reimburse telemedicine services. The application shall be
29 filed in accordance with section 17b-28g of the general statutes and
30 federal law.

31 (e) The transmission, storage and dissemination of data and records
32 related to telemedicine services shall be in accordance with federal and
33 state law and regulations concerning the privacy, security,
34 confidentiality and safeguarding of individually identifiable
35 information.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	January 1, 2013	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To provide coverage for telemedicine health services under the state Medicaid plan.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]