



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 5483**

February Session, 2012

\* \_\_\_\_\_HB05483HS\_\_\_\_\_032612\_\_\_\_\_\*

**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) (1) 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 (2) "Medically appropriate" means care that is (A) provided in a  
9 timely manner and meets professionally recognized standards of  
10 acceptable medical care; (B) delivered in the appropriate medical setting;  
11 and (C) the least costly of multiple, equally-effective alternative  
12 treatments or diagnostic modalities.

13 (b) The Commissioner of Social Services may establish a  
14 demonstration project to offer telemedicine as a Medicaid-covered  
15 service at federally-qualified community health centers.

16 (c) To the extent permitted by federal law, and where deemed  
17 medically appropriate, in-person contact between a health care  
18 provider and a patient shall not be required for health care services

19 delivered by telemedicine that otherwise would be eligible for  
20 reimbursement under the state Medicaid plan.

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

29 (e) The Commissioner of Social Services may apply, if necessary, to  
30 the federal government for an amendment to the state Medicaid plan  
31 to cover telemedicine services.

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

37 (g) Not later than January 1, 2014, the commissioner shall submit a  
38 report, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, on the  
39 demonstration project to the joint standing committees of the General  
40 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and  
41 human services. The report shall concern the services offered and the  
42 cost-effectiveness of the program.

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

**HS**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*