



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 13

February Session, 2012

* SB00013 INS __030812__ *

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:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

INS *Joint Favorable Subst.*