



# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

## FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1585

PRINTER'S NO. 2323

PRIME SPONSOR: Frankel

### COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2023/24	FY 2024/25
General Fund	See Fiscal Impact	See Fiscal Impact

### SUMMARY:

Provides for teledentistry services in the Commonwealth, including relevant definitions, regulations, and guidelines.

### ANALYSIS:

House Bill 1585, Printer's Number 2323, to be known as the Teledentistry Act, establishes definitions and regulations for the practice of teledentistry and its coverage by insurance plans, including the commonwealth's Medical Assistance program (MA) and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

The bill establishes that teledentistry will be regulated by the state Board of Dentistry and requires the board to promulgate temporary regulations within 270 days of the effective date of Subsection 3(c) of the legislation. Final regulations must be promulgated within twenty-four months of the effective date. Those regulations must ensure, among other things, that teledentistry is practiced with the same standard of care as in-person dentistry services and is practiced consistent with all applicable state and federal laws, such as the Health Insurance Portability and Account Act of 1996 (HIPAA).

The bill also provides guidelines and requirements for reimbursement of teledentistry services by dental insurance policies, including state insurance programs such as MA and CHIP.

### FISCAL IMPACT:

The promulgation of regulations regarding teledentistry can be accommodated within the existing funding and resources available to the Board of Dentistry. This legislation will bring the treatment of teledentistry services into agreement with existing federal policy. The MA program already covers teledentistry<sup>1</sup>, so there is no impact as a result of this legislation. The dental services provided to children enrolled in the CHIP are paid for by the participating managed care organizations (MCO). The department pays the MCO a monthly rate for each child enrolled in their MCO. At this time, any increase to the monthly MCO rates as a result of this legislation cannot be determined. However, any increase is likely to be nominal and can most likely be covered by the department's current appropriation.

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House Appropriations Committee (D)

**DATE:** December 12, 2023

*Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.*

<sup>1</sup> Medical Assistance Bulletin # 08-22-13, 27-22-07