
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 491 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY COHEN, CALTAGIRONE, HENNESSEY, D. COSTA,
YOUNGBLOOD, MUSTIO, V. BROWN, KORTZ, TRUITT, THOMAS,
READSHAW, DELUCA, MCGEEHAN AND PASHINSKI, FEBRUARY 4, 2013

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE, FEBRUARY 4, 2013

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 40 (Insurance) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, providing for health care coverage for telehealth.

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
4 hereby enacts as follows:

5 Section 1. Title 40 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
6 Statutes is amended by adding a part to read:

7 PART IV

8 HEALTH CARE COVERAGE

9 Chapter

10 71. (Reserved)

11 72. Telehealth

12 CHAPTER 71

13 (RESERVED)

14 CHAPTER 72

15 TELEHEALTH

16 Sec.

17 7201. Definitions.

1 7202. Provision of coverage.

2 § 7201. Definitions.

3 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
4 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
5 context clearly indicates otherwise:

6 "Health care professional." An individual who is licensed,
7 certified or otherwise regulated to provide health care services
8 under the laws of this Commonwealth.

9 "Health care services." Services for the diagnosis,
10 prevention, treatment, cure or relief of a health condition,
11 injury, disease or illness.

12 "Telehealth." The remote interaction between a health care
13 professional and a patient through the use of any of the
14 following:

15 (1) A video camera transmission.

16 (2) A computer video transmission.

17 (3) An electronic health monitoring device.

18 (4) Another telecommunications device that delivers
19 health information concerning a patient to a health care
20 professional.

21 § 7202. Provision of coverage.

22 An insurer that issues, delivers, executes or renews health
23 care insurance in this Commonwealth shall provide coverage for
24 telehealth if the health care professional agrees to all of the
25 following:

26 (1) The use of telehealth is appropriate for the
27 patient.

28 (2) The health care professional will be able to
29 maintain proper direct examination of the patient or direct
30 examination of the patient is not necessary.

1 (3) The use of telehealth is expected to result in lower
2 health care costs than if it were not used.

3 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.