

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2531 Session of 2020

INTRODUCED BY THOMAS, MAY 19, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, MAY 19, 2020

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), entitled  
 2 "An act providing for and reorganizing the conduct of the  
 3 executive and administrative work of the Commonwealth by the  
 4 Executive Department thereof and the administrative  
 5 departments, boards, commissions, and officers thereof,  
 6 including the boards of trustees of State Normal Schools, or  
 7 Teachers Colleges; abolishing, creating, reorganizing or  
 8 authorizing the reorganization of certain administrative  
 9 departments, boards, and commissions; defining the powers and  
 10 duties of the Governor and other executive and administrative  
 11 officers, and of the several administrative departments,  
 12 boards, commissions, and officers; fixing the salaries of the  
 13 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and certain other executive  
 14 and administrative officers; providing for the appointment of  
 15 certain administrative officers, and of all deputies and  
 16 other assistants and employes in certain departments, boards,  
 17 and commissions; providing for judicial administration; and  
 18 prescribing the manner in which the number and compensation  
 19 of the deputies and all other assistants and employes of  
 20 certain departments, boards and commissions shall be  
 21 determined," providing for report on telemedicine benefits  
 22 during COVID-19 pandemic.

23 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
 24 hereby enacts as follows:

25 Section 1. The act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known  
 26 as The Administrative Code of 1929, is amended by adding an  
 27 article to read:

28 ARTICLE XXI-C

1 REPORT ON TELEMEDICINE BENEFITS

2 DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

3 Section 2101-C. Definitions.

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

7 "COVID-19." The coronavirus disease 2019, being an  
8 infectious disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome  
9 coronavirus 2 that was first identified during December 2019 in  
10 Wuhan, China.

11 "Department." The Insurance Department of the Commonwealth.

12 "Health care provider." A provider in a health insurer's  
13 provider network.

14 "Health insurer." An entity that holds a valid license by  
15 the department with accident and health authority to issue a  
16 health insurance policy and governed under any of the following:

17 (1) The act of May 17, 1921 (P.L.682, No.284), known as  
18 The Insurance Company Law of 1921, including section 630 and  
19 Article XXIV.

20 (2) The act of December 29, 1972 (P.L.1701, No.364),  
21 known as the Health Maintenance Organization Act.

22 (3) 40 Pa.C.S. Ch. 61 (relating to hospital plan  
23 corporations).

24 (4) 40 Pa.C.S. Ch. 63 (relating to professional health  
25 services plan corporations).

26 "Order." Any of the following:

27 (1) the declaration of disaster emergency issued by the  
28 Governor on March 6, 2020, published at 50 Pa.B. 1644 (March  
29 21, 2020); or

30 (2) a declaration of disaster emergency relating to

1 COVID-19 which is issued after March 6, 2020.

2 "Telemedicine benefit." A health insurer's coverage for  
3 telemedicine services.

4 Section 2102-C. Report on telemedicine benefits during COVID-19  
5 pandemic.

6 (a) Report by health insurer.--No later than June 15, 2020,  
7 and the first day of each month thereafter until the order is  
8 terminated by executive order, proclamation or operation of law,  
9 a health insurer that provides a telemedicine benefit to an  
10 individual located within this Commonwealth shall submit a  
11 report to the department.

12 (b) Content of report.--A report under subsection (a) shall  
13 include all of the following information for the calendar month  
14 which ended immediately prior to the deadline for the report:

15 (1) The number of individuals who were provided a  
16 telemedicine benefit.

17 (2) The total amount reimbursed to health care providers  
18 providing telemedicine service to an individual located  
19 within this Commonwealth under a telemedicine benefit.

20 (c) Summary report by Insurance Commissioner.--No later than  
21 June 21, 2020, and the 21st day of each month thereafter until  
22 the order is terminated by executive order, proclamation or  
23 operation of law, the Insurance Commissioner shall submit a  
24 summary report of the reports submitted under subsection (a), to  
25 the chairperson and minority chairperson of the Insurance  
26 Committee of the Senate and the chairperson and minority  
27 chairperson of the Insurance Committee of the House of  
28 Representatives.

29 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.