

Roundup of 2014 Approved State Telehealth Legislation

State	Bill #	Summary
Alabama	HB 334	Authorizes the Alabama Board of Optometry to regulate the practice of optometry through telemedicine, and establishes protocols for optometry providers who use telemedicine.
Alaska	HB 281	Allows for the prescription of drugs by a physician without a physical examination.
Arizona	HB 2172	Amends section of law relating to the State Board of Psychologist Examiners. Among other things, it inserts a definition for “telepractice” and instructs the board to adopt rules regarding the use of telepractice.
Arizona	SB 1050	Expands the providers to which the telemedicine requirements in Arizona law apply to naturopaths.
Arizona	SB 1339	Allows a physical or mental health status examination, needed for the prescribing, dispensing or furnishing of a prescription medication or device, to be conducted during a real time telemedicine encounter.
California	AB 1174	Stipulates that for payment under Medi-Cal, face-to-face contact between a health care provider and patient is not necessary for tele-dentistry by store and forward, among other things.
California	AB 809	Clarifies points of oral consent law.
California	SB 1445	Includes telehealth services and support under the meaning of “services and supports for persons with development disabilities”.
Colorado	HB 1328	Creates a broadband fund and a broadband deployment board to facilitate the funding of projects to deploy broadband service into unserved areas of the state, which will enhance economic development, telehealth, education and safety.
Delaware	HB 359	Redefines and expands “practice of physical therapy” and “athletic training,” including telehealth and dry needling in their scope of practice.
Hawaii	SB 2469	Requires reimbursement for services provided through telehealth to be equivalent to reimbursement for the same services provided via face to face contact between a health care provider and a patient.
Idaho	HCR 46	Requires the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare to convene a council to coordinate and develop a comprehensive set of standards, policies, rules and procedures for the use of telehealth and telemedicine in Idaho.
Illinois	SB 647	Establishes requirements that a health plan must follow, if they provide telehealth coverage.
Indiana	HB 1258	Requires the medical licensing board to establish a pilot program to provide telehealth services to patients in Indiana.
Indiana	HB 1391	Requires the Office of the Secretary of Family and Social Services to provide a written report on more efficiently and cost effectively providing services in various settings through the use of emerging technologies, including telemedicine and remote patient monitoring.
Louisiana	HB 1280	Establishes standards of care for telemedicine providers and physicians practicing using a telemedicine license.
Louisiana	HCR 88	Creates a Task Force on Telehealth Access.
Maine	HB 1244	Permits medical examinations and consultations required or permitted under the laws governing involuntary hospitalization to be conducted using telemedicine or similar technologies.
Maine	LD 1596	Requires that registered nurses and behavioral health specialists be included as providers that may be reimbursed for providing covered services via telecommunications technology to MaineCare patients.
Maryland	HB 802	Requires the Maryland Medical Assistance Program to provide coverage for specified services delivered by telemedicine; and repeals the limitations on the health care services delivered by telemedicine that are eligible for reimbursement.

Maryland	SB 198	Amends law regarding Medicaid coverage of telemedicine. Allows the Department to cover health care services that are delivered through store and forward technology or remote patient monitoring.
Minnesota	HB 3172	Establishes a grant program under the Department of Employment and Economic Development to award grants to eligible applicants in order to promote the expansion of access to broadband service in unserved or underserved areas of the state.
Mississippi	SB 2015	Gives the State Board of Health the authority to promulgate rules and regulations and to collect data and information on the delivery of services through the practice of telemedicine; and the use of electronic records for the delivery of telemedicine services.
Mississippi	SB 2646	Requires health insurance plans to provide coverage and reimbursement for store and forward telemedicine services and remote patient monitoring services.
Missouri	SB 716 & SB 754	Stipulates that subject to appropriations, the University of Missouri shall manage the “show-me extension for the Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO) Program”.
Nebraska	LB 1076	Makes changes to the Nebraska Telehealth Act, changing the definition of telehealth to include synchronous and asynchronous, as well as telemonitoring, among other things.
Nebraska	LB 254	Defines behavioral health treatment as being able to be provided in person or by telehealth.
Nebraska	LR 422	Requires the Health and Human Services, in cooperation with the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee and input from partner stakeholders, to define opportunities for the expansion of health care delivery to rural and medically underserved regions and patients through telemedicine, electronic home care devices and internet medical teams.
New York	AB 9205 & SB 6914	Establishes the Capital Restructuring Financing Program. Among other things, capital grant projects can include development of telehealth infrastructure.
Ohio	HB 123	Defines telehealth and requires the state’s Medicaid program to establish standards for telehealth reimbursement.
Oklahoma	HB 2974 & HB 2977	Expands access to the Oklahoma Universal Service Fund.
Rhode Island	SB 2513	Allows for consultation between RI licensed physicians and out of state physicians who are in good standing with their state’s board on a singular occasion.
Tennessee	HB 1895 & SB 2050	Defines telehealth, and requires a health insurance carrier to provide coverage under a health insurance policy for covered health care services delivered through telehealth, to the same extent as policies that the benefit plan permits for in-person encounters.
Utah	HB 92	Amends provisions related to the Utah Education and Telehealth Network.
Vermont	SB 234	Provides for Medicaid coverage for services performed by home health agencies using home telemonitoring for a Medicaid beneficiary.
Virginia	HB 1005	At the end of Virginia’s telemedicine private payer law currently, there is a section that states: “this section shall not apply to short term travel, accident-only, or limited or specified disease or individual conversion policies or contracts”. This bill removes the words “or individual conversion” from the sentence.
Wisconsin	AB 458	Specifies mental health services provided through telehealth that are reimbursable by the Medical Assistance program.