

Monthly Meeting

June 18, 2021



California
Telehealth
Policy
Coalition

Agenda

Welcome and Introductions	5 min.
Budget Update	10 min.
Education Committee Update	10 min.
Legislation Committee Update	10 min.
Broadband Committee Update	10 min.
News and Announcements	5 min.
Wrap-Up and Next Steps	5 min.

Welcome to New Members



Coalition's key guiding principles (as outlined in our charter):

Promote access and coverage. Policies, legislation and activities should promote access to care through telehealth and coverage of telehealth services.

Enhance care coordination. Policies, legislation and activities should reinforce the patient-centered medical home model and reduce care fragmentation both within and among systems.

Promote provider and patient engagement. Policies, legislation and activities should promote the participation of providers in efforts that improve performance and patient health outcomes, and the involvement of patients in their health care.

Reinforce clinical quality. Policies, legislation and activities should reinforce desirable, measurable outcomes, specifically those used by regulators and produced by standard-setting organizations.

Ensure data privacy and security. Policies, legislation and activities should ensure data privacy and security, particularly as those standards are prescribed by law and industry standards.

Budget Update: Legislature's Response to May Revision and Budget Bill

Joint Proposal from Assembly and Senate:

- Rejected Governor's May Revise proposal regarding 65% for audio-only; adopted modified proposal to make permanent PHE telehealth flexibilities consistent with AB 32 (Aguiar-Curry)
- Approves the May Revision proposal to provide \$35 million one-time to support local projects to expand broadband access for isolated and under-served communities through a collaborative partnership of local education agencies, regional and local libraries, and telehealth providers. It is also requested that these funds be available for encumbrance or expenditure until June 30, 2025
- Approves \$165 million for E-consult services and provider training within the plan for Children and Youth Behavioral Health Investments.
- Appropriates \$7 billion over a multi-year period for broadband infrastructure and improved access to broadband services throughout the state.

Lawmakers Pass Placeholder Budget Bill ([AB 128](#))

- Did not include telehealth language – will be part of forthcoming trailer bills
- Legislators continue negotiations with Governor on areas with no agreement

State Health and Human Services Leaders Issue Joint Statement on Release of California's \$5.2 Billion Medicaid Home and Community Based Services Spending Plan

Addressing Digital Divide for Adults with HCBS - Funding: \$4.7M enhanced federal funding (\$9.5M TF) One-time

- Older adults and adults with disabilities eligible for Medi-Cal tele-health services and participating in HCBS will be provided tablets or other appropriate devices for telehealth, along with broadband and tech support (including expanded language access for tech support).
- This initiative leverages a new CDA digital divide initiative with Older American Act providers to increase the number of older adults and adults with disabilities receiving HCBS who are connected to tele-health and to other digital services and supports that prevent isolation and support well-being, while furthering the goals of the Master Plan for Aging.

Nursing Home Recovery & Innovation - Funding: \$50M enhanced federal funding (\$50M TF) One-time

- California's priorities include revisiting and expanding the pilot for Small Home facilities, for both quality of care and quality of jobs; facilitating in-room broadband access for residents; and disaster readiness improvements for facilities and systems, to respond to wildfires, earthquakes, and other emergencies where residents are especially vulnerable, among other innovations.

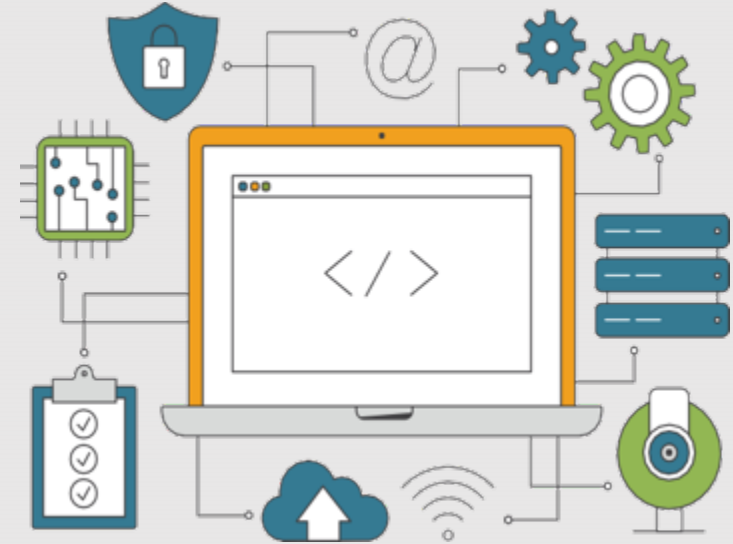
Education Committee Updates

Meeting Notes:

- Discussed legislation and budget updates
- Debriefed on second webinar
- Discussed hosting a third webinar focused on a policy update, fourth webinar on broadband
- Reviewed key stakeholders for outreach

Next Steps:

- Publish fact sheets on e-consult, text-based communications and audio-only
- Develop outreach plan for recruitment
- Host third webinar
- Identify topic and speakers for fourth webinar



Thanks for attending our second webinar!

Alternate Modalities: Going Beyond Live Video & RPM

Welcome

- Mei Wa Kwong, Executive Director, Center for Connected Health Policy

Today's Moderator

- Dr. Anthony Magit, Rady Children's Hospital, University of California, San Diego

The Patient Experience

- Adrianna

Panelist Session Speakers

- Lisa Matsubara, General Counsel & Vice President of Policy, Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California
- Rajat Simhan, MBA, Chief Integration Officer, San Joaquin General Hospital
- Sara Schnaitter, LCSW, Clinician, School-Based Behavioral Health, University of California, San Francisco, Benioff Children's Hospital, Oakland

Q&A

View the recorded webinar: <https://bit.ly/3fPwHOT/>

Access webinar slides: <https://bit.ly/3vVj5qP>

USE OF TEXT MESSAGING IN THE PROVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Provisions & Considerations	Benefits & Use/Service Delivery Strategies
HIPAA	Safety
Confidentiality	Coaching
Lack of follow-up or response in safety situations	Tracking
Alternative contact/caregiver agreements	Access
	Confidentiality
	Rapport Building
	Accomplishments



Legislation Committee Updates

Meeting Notes:

- Discussed budget and legislative developments
- Finalized/submitted support letters for SB 365 (e-consult) and SB 371 (HIT)
- Updated/re-submitted support letters for AB 14 (Broadband), AB 32 (Telehealth), and SB 4 (Broadband)

Next Steps:

- Monitoring legislation and budget updates



California Legislative Developments (1/3)

Telehealth-Related Bills

Bill No.	Coalition Support?	Recent Developments	Brief Description
AB 32 (Aguiar Curry et al.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In Sen. HEALTH	Makes permanent Covid-19 telehealth flexibilities
AB 1264 (Aguiar-Curry)		Two-year bill	Creates CHHS Agency Project ECHO grant program for children's hospitals
SB 365 (Caballero)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In Asm. HEALTH.	Requires Medi-Cal e-consult reimbursement
SB 371 (Caballero)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In Asm. HEALTH.	Creates a Deputy Secretary for Health Information Technology to coordinate health information technology efforts regarding hie, broadband, and telehealth
AB 410 (Fong)		Two-year bill	Nurse Licensure Compact
AB 457 (Santiago)		Set for Sen. HEALTH hearing on 6/23	Creates Protection of Patient Choice in Telehealth Provider Act
AB 523 (Nazarian)		Amend, and re-refer to committee. Read second time, amended, and re-referred to Com. on HEALTH. (6/15)	Requires DHCS to make all COVID PACE program changes permanent, including telehealth flexibilities
AB 552 (Quirk-Silva)		Two-year bill	Integrated School-Based Behavioral Health Partnership Program
AB 935 (Maienschein)		Two-year bill	Requires health plans and insurers to provide access to a telephone mental health consultation program for children and pregnant/post-partum women

California Legislative Developments (2/3)

Telehealth-Related Bills

Bill No.	Coalition Support?	Recent Developments	Brief Description
AB 1117 (Wicks)		Two-year bill	Establishes Healthy Start: Toxic Stress and Trauma Resiliency for Children Program
AB 1131 (Wood)		Two-year bill	Requires participation in statewide health information exchange network
AB 1252 (Chau)		Ordered to inactive file at the request of Assembly Member Chau. (6/02)	Defines privacy protections for personal health record information
SB 508 (Stern)		Two-year bill	Authorizes a local education agency (LEA) to provide mental health services and includes telehealth as an approved modality
SB 801 (Roth)		In Assembly. Read first time. Held at Desk. (6/2)	For purposes of telehealth, defines health care provider to additionally include an associate clinical social worker and an associate professional clinical counselor

California Legislative Developments (3/3)

Broadband Bills

Bill No.	Coalition Support?	Recent Developments	Brief Description
AB 14 (Aguiar-Curry et al.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In Senate. Referred to Coms. On E., U. & C. and Gov. & F. (06/16)	Revises law regarding California Advanced Services Fund (CASF)
SB 4 (Gonzalez)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Referred to Com. on C. & C. (06/10)	Revises law regarding California Advanced Services Fund (CASF)
SB 28 (Caballero)	<i>Recommended by Broadband Committee, for discussion at July Leg. Committee</i>	Asm Communications and Conveyance – Hearing set 6/23	Rural Broadband and Digital Infrastructure Video Competition Reform Act of 2021
AB 34 (Muratsuchi)		Held in Approps. Committee 5/20	Authorizes the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$10,000,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to support the 2022 Broadband for All Program
AB 537 (Quirk)		Referred to Coms. on E., U. & C. and GOV. & F. (6/9)	Requires that the time period for city/county approval of collocation or siting applications for wireless telecommunications facilities be deemed approved if the city/county fails to approve within the standard set by the FCC
SB 378 (Gonzalez)		Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on C. & C. (6/14)	Broadband: methods of fiber installation
SB 556 (Dodd)		Passed Asm L. GOV, referred to Com. on C. & C. (6/10)	Seeks to ensure local governments provide access and quickly permit approval of small wireless facility siting applications

Broadband Committee Updates

Meeting Notes:

- Reviewed and discussed positions on SB 28 (Caballero) – *Recommendation to support*
- Discussed developments from recent CPUC Broadband Council meeting
- Discussed broadband advocacy groups for outreach to present/join meetings

Next Steps:

- Reach out to broadband advocacy groups to present at next meeting

Broadband Principles, adopted by the Broadband Committee

- **Broadband should be treated as a utility:** policies should treat broadband as a utility necessary for Californians to access health care and other services and needs in the 21st century
- **Robust infrastructure should be in place to serve all Californians:** policies expand the physical infrastructure needed to bring internet access to underserved populations and geographies
- **Californians should have equitable access to broadband:** policies ensure increased access to broadband for underserved communities, both urban and rural
- **Broadband should be affordable:** policies should support making high-quality internet access affordable for all Californians, including the use of subsidies and/or price setting
- **Government should fund broadband projects that rely on best-in-class, high-speed standards:** policies ensure that infrastructure, accessibility and affordability reinforce the need for high-speed, best in class technologies

New Report on Medicare and Telehealth

A Kaiser Family Foundation brief presents new information and analysis of Medicare beneficiaries' utilization of telehealth using [Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services](#) (CMS) survey data from between summer and fall of 2020. Key findings include:

- 64% of beneficiaries said their provider offers telehealth, 18% said their provider offered telehealth prior to the pandemic. However, nearly a quarter did not know whether their provider offered telehealth
- Over 1 in 4 (27% or 15 million) of Medicare beneficiaries had a telehealth visit between the summer and fall of 2020
- Majority of Medicare beneficiaries used telephone only (56%)
- The share of Medicare beneficiaries who had a telehealth visit using telephone only was higher among beneficiaries who were: 75+ (65%), Hispanic (61%), Living in rural areas (65%), and Enrolled in both Medicare and Medicaid (67%)

Looking forward: The authors suggest that since they found greater usage of telehealth amongst those with disabilities, low incomes, and in communities of color, the temporary expansions of coverage may be helping more disadvantaged populations access care. In addition, since most services are being provided via audio-only, they state going back to requiring two-way video could be a barrier for many subgroups of the Medicare population.

Read full issue brief here: <https://www.kff.org/medicare/issue-brief/medicare-and-telehealth-coverage-and-use-during-the-covid-19-pandemic-and-options-for-the-future/>



New Video on the Importance of Audio-Only



Closing Announcements

Save the Dates

Upcoming Meetings

Legislation Committee

July 9 from 1-2pm

Education Committee

Wednesday July 14 from 2-3pm

Monthly Meeting

July 16 from 1-2pm

Broadband Committee

July 20 from 1-2pm

Please reach to staff if you have any questions

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Appendix

Education Committee Recruitment Tracker

Organization Type	Organization	Contact	Outreach Lead
Disability community	Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund		
Occupational therapy			
English to Speakers of Other Languages			
Skilled Nursing Facilities	CALTCM	Mike Wasserman	
School Psychologists	Cal. Assoc. of School Psychologists		
Consumer organizations	Insure the Uninsured Project	Marissa Kraynak	Mei/Amy spoke with last week
	Southern Indian Health Council	Laura I Caswell	Joe connected // Amy has call scheduled
Education organizations	School Nurses Association	Sheri Coburn	Dr. Magit connected // Mei emailed

Peter Ansel, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of Senator Caballero:

SB 28 (Caballero) - Rural Broadband and Digital Infrastructure Video Competition Act of 2021

- Requires the Department of General Services, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Education, and the Department of Technology to identify all state real properties, rights of way, and other resources suitable for a public / private partnership for broadband network development.
 - Agencies will develop a template agreement that enables any broadband network developer to utilize the identified state assets in its network development planning and deployment plans.
 - Without any new taxes or fees, this simple step makes the state a valuable partner in closing the Digital Divide.
- SB 28 reforms the Digital Infrastructure Video Competition Act of 2006 (DIVCA) in order to ensure that licensees are meeting their obligations under DIVCA.

Read the full bill: https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB28

Broadband Council Update

California Broadband Council held its second meeting of 2021 on May 19 where state agencies provided updates on [executive order items](#):

- #3 CPUC lead data aggregation and mapping efforts with CalSTA to address: locations without broadband, info on public and private broadband network infrastructure, rights of way, deployment costs, information to support development of local broadband infrastructure
- #5 GO-Biz to identify funding opportunities for broadband deployment and adoption
- #6 CDT and DGS to seek opportunities to leverage the State's contract authorities as resources to further statewide broadband access and adoption
- #7 CalSTA and Caltrans to work with CTC to identify and incorporate the installation of conduit and fiber into all appropriate and feasible transportation projects along strategic corridors
- # 10 CalOES to coordinate implementation of implementing Next generation 9-1-1 to expand broadband infrastructure to enhance public safety and disaster response capabilities
- #12 HCD to provide recommendations to CPUC to increase free or low-cost broadband connectivity at all publicly subsidized housing communities
- #13 GO – BIZ to coordinate the outreach efforts for existing statewide programs and institutions to inform residents of affordable internet service offerings
- #14 CDE to continue leading statewide efforts to ensure students have the computing devices and connectivity necessary
- #15 California Department of Aging to analyze the needs of people ages 60 and older for access to affordable, reliable high-speed broadband

Next meeting will feature updates on the Broadband Action Plan short-term goals

View recorded meeting: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zz0uADV_dik

View executive order: <https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/8.14.20-EO-N-73-20.pdf>

Broadband Advocates 1/2

Organization	Description
<u>Media Justice</u>	MediaJustice is building a powerful grassroots movement for a just and participatory media, fighting for racial economic and gender justice in the digital age. Open and affordable internet is one of their main focus areas.
<u>New America's Open Technology Institute</u>	OTI brings together advocates, researchers, organizers and innovators to work at the intersection of technology and policy to ensure that every community has equitable access to digital technology and its benefits.
<u>California Forward</u>	California Forward (CA FWD) leads a statewide movement, bringing people together across communities, regions and interests to improve government and create inclusive, sustainable growth for everyone. Connecting California to broadband is one of its eight action-areas.
<u>One Million New Internet Users</u>	Non-profit training English-learners in central and southern California to adopt technology and use broadband. Spoke at California Broadband Council May meeting.

Broadband Advocates 2/2

Organization	Description
Electronic Frontier Foundation	Non-profit organization based in San Francisco, defending civil liberties in the digital world through policy analysis, litigation, grassroots activism.
Benton Institute for Broadband and Society	Non-profit that supports legal and policy experts with the goal of bringing open, affordable high-capacity broadband to all people in the US.
Greenlining Institute	Non-profit working toward a future where communities of color can build wealth, live in healthy places filled with economic opportunity. Uses multifaceted advocacy efforts to address the root causes of racial, economic and environmental inequities. Focus areas include health, economic, energy environmental and technology equity.
Center for Democracy and Technology	Non-profit advocacy organization that brings together thought leaders working to promote democratic values by shaping technology policy and architecture with a focus on the individual. Focus areas include open internet.
California Emerging Technology Fund	CETF has been established as a non-profit corporation pursuant to orders from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) in approving the mergers of SBC-AT&T and Verizon-MCI in 2005. Its mission is to Provide leadership statewide to close the “Digital Divide” by accelerating the deployment and adoption of broadband to unserved and underserved communities and populations.