



100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2017 and 2018

SB2069

Introduced 2/10/2017, by Sen. Pat McGuire

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

305 ILCS 5/5-5.25
305 ILCS 5/5-5.25a new

Amends the Medical Assistance Article of the Illinois Public Aid Code. In a provision concerning access to psychiatric mental health services via telepsychiatry, provides that the Department of Healthcare and Family Services shall not require that a physician or other licensed health care professional be physically present in the same room as the patient for the entire time during which the patient is receiving telepsychiatry services. Provides that the Department shall not require that a physician or other licensed healthcare professional be physically present in the same room as the patient for the entire time during which the patient is receiving telemedicine services. Defines "telemedicine" as the use of a telecommunication system to provide medical services for the purpose of evaluation and treatment when the patient is at one location and the rendering provider is at another location.

LRB100 11426 KTG 21849 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning public aid.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Public Aid Code is amended by
5 changing Section 5-5.25 and by adding Section 5-5.25a as
6 follows:

7 (305 ILCS 5/5-5.25)

8 Sec. 5-5.25. Access to psychiatric mental health services.
9 The General Assembly finds that providing access to psychiatric
10 mental health services in a timely manner will improve the
11 quality of life for persons suffering from mental illness and
12 will contain health care costs by avoiding the need for more
13 costly inpatient hospitalization. The Department of Healthcare
14 and Family Services shall reimburse psychiatrists and
15 federally qualified health centers as defined in Section
16 1905(1)(2)(B) of the federal Social Security Act for mental
17 health services provided by psychiatrists, as authorized by
18 Illinois law, to recipients via telepsychiatry. The
19 Department, by rule, shall establish: (i) criteria for such
20 services to be reimbursed, including appropriate facilities
21 and equipment to be used at both sites and requirements for a
22 physician or other licensed health care professional to be
23 present at the site where the patient is located; however, the

1 Department shall not require that a physician or other licensed
2 health care professional be physically present in the same room
3 as the patient for the entire time during which the patient is
4 receiving telepsychiatry services;⁷ and (ii) a method to
5 reimburse providers for mental health services provided by
6 telepsychiatry.

7 On and after July 1, 2012, the Department shall reduce any
8 rate of reimbursement for services or other payments or alter
9 any methodologies authorized by this Code to reduce any rate of
10 reimbursement for services or other payments in accordance with
11 Section 5-5e.

12 (Source: P.A. 97-689, eff. 6-14-12.)

13 (305 ILCS 5/5-5.25a new)

14 Sec. 5-5.25a. Telemedicine services. As used in this
15 Section, "telemedicine" means the use of a telecommunication
16 system to provide medical services for the purpose of
17 evaluation and treatment when the patient is at one location
18 and the rendering provider is at another location. The
19 Department shall not require that a physician or other licensed
20 health care professional be physically present in the same room
21 as the patient for the entire time during which the patient is
22 receiving telemedicine services.