



## 102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

HB2591

Introduced 2/19/2021, by Rep. Deb Conroy

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

305 ILCS 5/5-5.25

Amends the Medical Assistance Article of the Illinois Public Aid Code. Requires the Department of Healthcare and Family Services to reimburse physicians, community mental health centers, and substance abuse centers that provide primary care and behavioral health services to medical assistance recipients via telehealth, including medical evaluations for individuals residing in facilities licensed under the ID/DD Community Care Act and in community-integrated living arrangements. Requires the Department to establish, by rule, a method to reimburse providers for medical and behavioral health services (rather than mental health services) provided by telehealth. Requires the Department to reimburse any community mental health center, facility licensed under the ID/DD Community Care Act, and community-integrated living arrangement that acts as the location of the patient at the time a telehealth service is rendered.

LRB102 14297 KTG 19649 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 as follows:

6 (305 ILCS 5/5-5.25)

7 Sec. 5-5.25. Access to behavioral health and medical  
8 services.

9 (a) The General Assembly finds that providing access to  
10 behavioral health and medical services in a timely manner and  
11 in the most appropriate setting will improve the quality of  
12 life for persons suffering from illness, will reduce the  
13 spread of infectious diseases to the general public, and will  
14 contain health care costs by avoiding the need for unnecessary  
15 visits to the emergency room and more costly inpatient  
16 hospitalization.

17 (b) The Department of Healthcare and Family Services shall  
18 reimburse physicians, psychiatrists, community mental health  
19 centers, substance abuse centers, federally qualified health  
20 centers as defined in Section 1905(1)(2)(B) of the federal  
21 Social Security Act, clinical psychologists, clinical social  
22 workers, advanced practice registered nurses certified in  
23 psychiatric and mental health nursing, and mental health

1 professionals and clinicians authorized by Illinois law to  
2 provide primary care and behavioral health services to  
3 recipients via telehealth, including medical evaluations for  
4 individuals residing in facilities licensed under the ID/DD  
5 Community Care Act and in community-integrated living  
6 arrangements as defined in the Community-Integrated Living  
7 Arrangements Licensure and Certification Act. The Department,  
8 by rule, shall establish: (i) criteria for such services to be  
9 reimbursed, including appropriate facilities and equipment to  
10 be used at both sites and requirements for a physician or other  
11 licensed health care professional to be present at the site  
12 where the patient is located; however, the Department shall  
13 not require that a physician or other licensed health care  
14 professional be physically present in the same room as the  
15 patient for the entire time during which the patient is  
16 receiving telehealth services; and (ii) a method to reimburse  
17 providers for medical and behavioral health services ~~mental~~  
18 ~~health services~~ provided by telehealth.

19 (c) The Department shall reimburse any Medicaid certified  
20 eligible facility or provider organization that acts as the  
21 location of the patient at the time a telehealth service is  
22 rendered, including community mental health centers certified  
23 by the Department of Human Services' Division of Mental  
24 Health, substance abuse centers licensed by the Department of  
25 Human Services' Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse,  
26 facilities licensed under the ID/DD Community Care Act, and

1 community-integrated living arrangements as defined in the  
2 Community-Integrated Living Arrangements Licensure and  
3 Certification Act.

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

9 (Source: P.A. 100-385, eff. 1-1-18; 100-790, eff. 8-10-18;  
10 100-1019, eff. 1-1-19; 101-81, eff. 7-12-19.)