
SENATE BILL 6163

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Senators Becker, Cleveland, Fain, Bailey, Brown, Wilson, Short, Conway, Keiser, and Kuderer

1 AN ACT Relating to extending the duration of the collaborative
2 for the advancement of telemedicine; and amending 2016 c 68 s 2
3 (uncodified).

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** 2016 c 68 s 2 (uncodified) is amended to read as
6 follows:

7 (1) The collaborative for the advancement of telemedicine is
8 created to enhance the understanding and use of health services
9 provided through telemedicine and other similar models in Washington
10 state. The collaborative shall be hosted by the University of
11 Washington telehealth services and shall be comprised of one member
12 from each of the two largest caucuses of the senate and the house of
13 representatives, and representatives from the academic community,
14 hospitals, clinics, and health care providers in primary care and
15 specialty practices, carriers, and other interested parties.

16 (2) By July 1, 2016, the collaborative shall be convened. The
17 collaborative shall develop recommendations on improving
18 reimbursement and access to services, including originating site
19 restrictions, provider to provider consultative models, and
20 technologies and models of care not currently reimbursed; identify
21 the existence of telemedicine best practices, guidelines, billing

1 requirements, and fraud prevention developed by recognized medical
2 and telemedicine organizations; and explore other priorities
3 identified by members of the collaborative. After review of existing
4 resources, the collaborative shall explore and make recommendations
5 on whether to create a technical assistance center to support
6 providers in implementing or expanding services delivered through
7 telemedicine technologies.

8 (3) The collaborative must submit an initial progress report by
9 December 1, 2016, with follow-up policy reports including
10 recommendations by December 1, 2017, and December 1, 2018. The
11 reports shall be shared with the relevant professional associations,
12 governing boards or commissions, and the health care committees of
13 the legislature.

14 (4) The meetings of the board shall be open public meetings, with
15 meeting summaries available on a web page.

16 (5) The future of the collaborative shall be reviewed by the
17 legislature with consideration of ongoing technical assistance needs
18 and opportunities. The collaborative terminates December 31, (~~2018~~)
19 2021.

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