
SENATE BILL 6061

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2020 Regular Session

By Senators Becker and Conway

Prefiled 12/10/19. Read first time 01/13/20. Referred to Committee on Health & Long Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring training standards in providing
2 telemedicine services; and amending RCW 43.70.495.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.70.495 and 2019 c 48 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) The legislature finds that a large segment of Washington
7 residents do not have access to critical health care services.
8 Telemedicine is a way to increase access to health care services to
9 those who would otherwise not have reasonable access. The legislature
10 therefore intends to ensure that health care professionals who
11 provide services through telemedicine, as defined in RCW 70.41.020,
12 in cities and rural areas alike, have current information available,
13 making it possible for them to provide telemedicine services to the
14 entire state of Washington.

15 (2) Beginning January 1, (~~2020~~) 2021, a health care
16 professional who provides clinical services through telemedicine
17 (~~may~~), other than a physician licensed under chapter 18.71 RCW or
18 an osteopathic physician licensed under chapter 18.57 RCW, shall
19 complete a telemedicine training. By January 1, 2020, the
20 telemedicine collaborative shall make a telemedicine training
21 available on its web site for use by health care professionals who

1 use telemedicine technology. If a health care professional completes
2 the training, the health care professional shall sign and retain an
3 attestation. The training:

4 (a) Must include information on current state and federal law,
5 liability, informed consent, and other criteria established by the
6 collaborative for the advancement of telemedicine, in collaboration
7 with the department and the Washington state medical quality
8 assurance commission;

9 (b) Must include a question and answer methodology to demonstrate
10 accrual of knowledge; and

11 (c) May be made available in electronic format and completed over
12 the internet.

13 (3) The training may be incorporated into existing telemedicine
14 training programs, provided that the training meets the requirements
15 in subsection (2) of this section.

16 (4) For purposes of this section, a "health care professional"
17 means a person licensed, registered, or certified to provide health
18 services.

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