

FINAL BILL REPORT

SSB 5325

C 100 L 21
Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Concerning telemedicine.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on Health & Long Term Care (originally sponsored by Senators Muzzall, Cleveland, Dozier, Frockt, Keiser, Randall, Rivers and Robinson).

Senate Committee on Health & Long Term Care
Senate Committee on Ways & Means
House Committee on Health Care & Wellness

Background: A health plan offered by a health carrier, a health plan offered to school or state employees and their dependents, a Medicaid managed care plan, and a behavioral health administrative services organization—for covered persons under 18 years of age—must reimburse providers for health care services provided through telemedicine or store and forward technology if:

- the services are covered services;
- the services are medically necessary;
- the services are essential health benefits under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act;
- the services are determined to be safely and effectively provided through telemedicine or store and forward technology according to generally accepted health care practices and standards; and
- the technology meets state and federal standards governing the privacy and security of protected health information.

Summary: Behavioral health administrative services organizations and managed care organizations must reimburse a provider for a behavioral health service provided to a covered person through telemedicine or store and forward technology if:

- the services are covered services;
- the services are medically necessary;
- the services are essential health benefits under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act;

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- the services are determined to be safely and effectively provided through telemedicine or store and forward technology according to generally accepted health care practices and standards; and
- the technology meets state and federal standards governing the privacy and security of protected health information.

Votes on Final Passage:

Senate	47	0
House	98	0

Effective: July 25, 2021