



House Bill 29

Insurance Coverage for Telehealth

Representative Ivy Spohnholz

Telehealth: Why is this important?

- Reduce need for health care travel
 - Saving health care travel costs.
 - Speed up access to critical providers.
 - Allow for contagious patients to stay home while still receiving needed health care.
- Increase access to important health care services for Alaskans in rural and remote communities
 - Early intervention which can lead to savings.
 - Greater access for referrals to providers who specialize in treating specific health issues.
- Zero impact on state budget

Purpose of HB29

- Provide greater access to health care.
- Allow patients to see their primary care physicians.
- Decrease the cost of travel for health care.

Section 1

An insurer in the state of Alaska that offers health care insurance plans in the group or individual market will provide coverage for benefits delivered via telehealth by a licensed provider without the requirement of an initial in-person meeting.

Section 2

- Health care insurer and telehealth are added to AS 21.42.422.
- Telehealth has the same definition in AS 47.05.270(e).

Section 3 & 4

- Section 3

Health care insurance plans effected by Section 1 of this bill will apply on or after the effective date of July 1, 2020.

- Section 4

Effective July 1, 2020.

Online & Available for Questions



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Dr. Lyn Freeman, Mind Matters, LLC



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