

Comparison of SB80 and HB 281—Telemedicine

Both SB 80, Section 2, and HB 281 prohibit the medical board from sanctioning licensees for prescribing non-controlled prescription drugs without a prior physical examination.

SB80

SB 80, Section 2, is almost identical to HB 281.

SB 80 would provide definitions for telemedicine and insurance billing but are not key to solving the critical problem caused by the Medical board.

HB 281

HB281 requires prescribing physicians must be located in Alaska. This is appropriate as the only issue covered by this bill would be those who are prescribing without the physical examination. This would not impact any current physician and their patients nor a physician covering for another physician

HB 281 requires the physician must have a physician to cover follow-up care if unavailable to the patient.

The exemption for prescribing controlled substances to an existing patient is not included, as HB 281 does not affect established physician-patient relationships.