

SENATE BILL 704

J1

(8lr2634)

ENROLLED BILL

— Finance/Health and Government Operations —

Introduced by **Senators Klausmeier, Astle, Eckardt, Guzzone, Mathias, Middleton, Peters, and Rosapepe** ~~Rosapepe~~ **Rosapepe, Benson, Feldman, Hershey, Jennings, and Reilly**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this _____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

President.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Telemedicine – Assertive Community**
3 **Treatment and Mobile Treatment Services**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Department of Health, under certain
5 circumstances, to include psychiatrists who are providing Assertive Community
6 Treatment or mobile treatment services to certain Maryland Medical Assistance
7 Program recipients in the types of providers eligible to receive reimbursement for
8 health care services that are delivered through telemedicine and provided to
9 Program recipients; providing that a certain health care service provided through
10 telemedicine by a certain psychiatrist is equivalent to the same health care service
11 when provided through an in-person consultation for a certain purpose; *requiring*
12 *the Department to report to certain committees of the General Assembly on certain*

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



1 matters on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and
2 generally relating to the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and telemedicine.

3 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
4 Article – Health – General
5 Section 15–105.2
6 Annotated Code of Maryland
7 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

8 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
9 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

10 **Article – Health – General**

11 15–105.2.

12 (a) The Program shall reimburse health care providers in accordance with the
13 requirements of Title 19, Subtitle 1, Part IV of this article.

14 (b) (1) (i) In this subsection the following words have the meanings
15 indicated.

16 (ii) “Health care provider” means a person who is licensed, certified,
17 or otherwise authorized under the Health Occupations Article to provide health care in the
18 ordinary course of business or practice of a profession or in an approved education or
19 training program.

20 (iii) 1. “Telemedicine” means, as it relates to the delivery of
21 health care services, the use of interactive audio, video, or other telecommunications or
22 electronic technology:

23 A. By a health care provider to deliver a health care service
24 that is within the scope of practice of the health care provider at a site other than the site
25 at which the patient is located; and

26 B. That enables the patient to see and interact with the
27 health care provider at the time the health care service is provided to the patient.

28 2. “Telemedicine” does not include:

29 A. An audio–only telephone conversation between a health
30 care provider and a patient;

31 B. An electronic mail message between a health care provider
32 and a patient; or

1 C. A facsimile transmission between a health care provider
2 and a patient.

3 (2) To the extent authorized by federal law or regulation, the provisions of
4 § 15–139(c) through (f) of the Insurance Article relating to coverage of and reimbursement
5 for health care services delivered through telemedicine shall apply to the Program and
6 managed care organizations in the same manner they apply to carriers.

7 (3) Subject to the limitations of the State budget and to the extent
8 authorized by federal law or regulation, the Department may authorize coverage of and
9 reimbursement for health care services that are delivered through store and forward
10 technology or remote patient monitoring.

11 (4) (i) The Department may specify by regulation the types of health
12 care providers eligible to receive reimbursement for health care services provided to
13 Program recipients under this subsection.

14 (ii) If the Department specifies by regulation the types of health care
15 providers eligible to receive reimbursement for health care services provided to Program
16 recipients under this subsection, the types of health care providers specified shall include
17 **[primary]:**

18 **1. PRIMARY care providers; AND**

19 **2. PSYCHIATRISTS WHO ARE PROVIDING ASSERTIVE**
20 **COMMUNITY TREATMENT OR MOBILE TREATMENT SERVICES TO PROGRAM**
21 **RECIPIENTS LOCATED IN A HOME OR COMMUNITY–BASED SETTING.**

22 **(III) FOR THE PURPOSE OF REIMBURSEMENT AND ANY FIDELITY**
23 **STANDARDS ESTABLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT, A HEALTH CARE SERVICE**
24 **PROVIDED THROUGH TELEMEDICINE BY A PSYCHIATRIST DESCRIBED UNDER**
25 **SUBPARAGRAPH (II)2 OF THIS PARAGRAPH IS EQUIVALENT TO THE SAME HEALTH**
26 **CARE SERVICE WHEN PROVIDED THROUGH AN IN–PERSON CONSULTATION.**

27 (5) The Department may require a health care provider to submit a
28 registration form to the Department that includes information required for the processing
29 of claims for reimbursement for health care services provided to Program recipients under
30 this subsection.

31 (6) The Department shall adopt regulations to carry out this subsection.

32 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before September 30,
33 2020, the Maryland Department of Health shall report, in accordance with § 2–1246 of the
34 State Government Article, to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Health and
35 Government Operations Committee on the effect on Medical Assistance Program general
36 fund expenditures of reimbursing telemedicine services from psychiatrists who are providing

1 Assertive Community Treatment or mobile treatment services, as required by Section 1 of
2 this Act.

3 SECTION ~~2~~ 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
4 October 1, 2018. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of September
5 30, 2020, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be
6 abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.