

PROMOTION OF HEALTH EFFICIENCIES

2007 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Bradley G. Last

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE**General Description:**

This bill amends the Medical Assistance Act in the Health Code.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- requires the state Medicaid program to allow the use of telemedicine for certain services that are otherwise reimbursable under the state Medicaid plan; and
- provides guidelines for reimbursing for telemedicine services.

Monies Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

26-18-12, Utah Code Annotated 1953

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*Section 1. Section **26-18-12** is enacted to read:**26-18-12. Telemedicine -- Reimbursement -- Disclosure.**

(1) (a) On or after July 1, 2007, in person contact between a health care provider and a patient is not required under the state's medical assistance program for health care services:



28 (i) that are eligible for reimbursement under the program; and
29 (ii) that are delivered through telemedicine in accordance with Subsection (3).
30 (b) This Subsection (1) applies to any managed care organization that contracts with
31 the state medical assistance program.
32 (2) The reimbursement rate for telemedicine services:
33 (a) shall be subject to reimbursement policies set by the state plan; and
34 (b) may be based on a monthly reimbursement rate or a daily reimbursement rate.
35 (3) The department shall adopt administrative rules in accordance with Title 63,
36 Chapter 46a, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, which establish the telemedicine services
37 that may be reimbursed under the state plan without an in person visit with a health care
38 professional.

Legislative Review Note
as of 2-1-07 12:43 PM

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel

H.B. 444 - Promotion of Health Efficiencies**Fiscal Note**

2007 General Session

State of Utah

State Impact

Enactment of this bill will require an ongoing General Fund appropriation of \$165,500 to the Department of Health starting in FY 2008 to implement the provisions of the legislation. These funds will be matched with \$410,100 federal funds. Though there is a potential to reduce the cost of services, the funding appropriation is required to address an estimated caseload increase for services covered by the bill.

	<u>FY 2007</u> <u>Approp.</u>	<u>FY 2008</u> <u>Approp.</u>	<u>FY 2009</u> <u>Approp.</u>	<u>FY 2007</u> <u>Revenue</u>	<u>FY 2008</u> <u>Revenue</u>	<u>FY 2009</u> <u>Revenue</u>
General Fund	\$0	\$165,500	\$165,500	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$410,400	\$410,400	\$0	\$410,400	\$410,400
Total	\$0	\$575,900	\$575,900	\$0	\$410,400	\$410,400

Individual, Business and/or Local Impact

It is estimated that enactment of this bill could reduce transportation and medical expenses for some Medicaid clients. The cost of providing services could also be reduced for some providers in certain situations.