GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2019

H.B. 555 Apr 2, 2019 HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK D

Η

Short Title:

Sponsors:

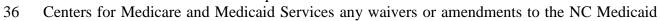
HOUSE BILL DRH40256-MR-68

Representatives Dobson, White, Saine, and Lambeth (Primary Sponsors).

Modernize Medicaid Telemedicine Policies.

(Public)

	Referred to:	Referred to:	
1	A BILL TO BE ENTITLED		
2	AN ACT TO MAKE CHANGES TO MEDICAID AND NC HEALTH CHOICE		
3	TELEMEDICINE AND TELEPSYCHIATRY POLICIES TO FACILITATE INCREASED		
4	ACCESS TO SERVICES, EVOLVE WITH THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY, AND ALIGN		
5	WITH BEST PRACTICES.		
6	The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:		
7	SECTION 1. The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) shall make		
8	the following changes to the Medicaid and NC Health Choice Clinical Coverage Policy No. 1H,		
9	Telemedicine and Telepsychiatry:		
10	(1)	DHHS shall reimburse for telemedicine and telepsychiatry services performed	
11		in a recipient's home or delivered from a licensed practitioner's home.	
12	(2)	A referral shall not be required for the use of telemedicine or telepsychiatry	
13		services.	
14	(3)	The delivery of telemedicine or telepsychiatry over the phone or by video cell	
15		phone shall be covered.	
16	(4)	A referring provider and a receiving provider shall be allowed to bill for	
17		facility fees related to the provision of telemedicine or telepsychiatry on the	
18		same date of service.	
19	(5)	Telemedicine and telepsychiatry services shall not be subject to the exact same	
20		restrictions as face-to-face contacts. The clinical coverage policy shall be	
21		updated to align the policy with best practices for telemedicine and	
22		telepsychiatry.	
23	(6)	All behavioral health providers who are directly enrolled as providers in the	
24		Medicaid and NC Health Choice programs, including licensed professional	
25		counselors, licensed marriage and family therapists, certified clinical	
26		supervisors, and licensed clinical additions specialists, shall be included in the	
27		coverage policy as providers who may bill Medicaid or NC Health Choice for	
28		telemedicine and telepsychiatry services and as providers who may bill for a	
29		facility fee.	
30	In addition to the changes to Clinical Coverage Policy No. 1H, Telemedicine and		
31	Telepsychiatry, DHHS is directed to expand the billing code set available for telemedicine and		
32	telepsychiatry to include most outpatient billing codes, including family therapy and		
33	psychotherapy for crisis. With the exception of family therapy, the expanded billing codes shall		
34	not include group-type therapies.		
35	SECTION 2. The Department of Health and Human Services shall submit to the		





- 1 State Plan necessary to implement this act. The changes required by Section 1 of this act shall be
- 2 effective after the completion of the process for amending policy that is required under
- 3 G.S. 108A-54.2. 4 **SECT**
 - **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.