

HB 2693 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 1/31

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Defines “health services” and “telemedicine.” Requires health plans to cover telemedicine services. Establishes reimbursement rates for telemedicine services. Establishes telemedicine permissibility requirements for health plans.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Telemedicine is the practice of medicine using technology to provide care to a patient at a distant location. Telehealth refers more broadly to the use of technology to support long-distance health care as well as non-clinical services such as provider training and continuing medical education. The types of health care professionals licensed or authorized to provide telemedicine services varies within a state as does the ability to practice telemedicine across states. Coverage of and reimbursement for types of telemedicine services differs among payers including Medicare, Medicaid, and private health plans.

House Bill 2693 creates telemedicine coverage and reimbursement requirements for commercial health plans.