



HOUSE BILL 967: Telemedicine Policy.

2017-2018 General Assembly

Committee:	House Health	Date:	June 6, 2018
Introduced by:	Reps. Lambeth, Dobson	Prepared by:	Jason Moran-Bates
Analysis of:	Second Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *The Proposed Committee Substitute to House Bill 967 would require the Department of Health and Human Services to study and report on requirements for insurance reimbursement of telemedicine, a broadband policy to ensure all North Carolina residents have access to telemedicine, standards for assessing the quality of telemedical care, and licensing requirements for telemedicine providers*

[As introduced, this bill was identical to S779, as introduced by Sen. Pate, which is currently in Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate.]

BILL ANALYSIS:

Section 1.(a) would require DHHS to study and report on, in consultation with the Department of Insurance and relevant stakeholders, a recommended policy for reimbursement of care provided via telemedicine by private health insurance, as well as the budget impact of reimbursing for telemedicine services under Medicaid and NC Health Choice.

Section 1.(b) would require DHHS and the Department of Information Technology to study and report on a plan to ensure that all North Carolina residents have sufficiently advanced Internet connectivity to receive health care via telemedicine.

Section 1.(c) would require DHHS to study and report on performance metrics to be used by DHHS in assessing the quality of telemedicine services provided in the State.

Section 1.(d) would require DHHS to study and report on recommended standards for licensing individuals who provide healthcare via telemedicine.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This bill would be effective when it becomes law.

BACKGROUND: S.L. 2017-133 required DHHS to study and report on a telemedicine policy for North Carolina. The report recommended further study on the topics of insurance reimbursement of care provided via telemedicine, licensing standards for providers of telemedicine, and implementation of a plan to ensure all residents of North Carolina had access to sufficiently robust broadband to receive healthcare via telemedicine.

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