

February 2020



## Telehealth Parity Amendments

### HB313 Includes:

- A requirement that certain health plans provide parity between telehealth and in-person care, including
  - The same coverage
  - The same reimbursement for providers
  - Same copay, coinsurance, and deductible
- This is not a mandate that practitioners must provide telehealth, only that health plans must cover it equally if the practitioner chooses to do so

### Benefits of Telehealth:

- Reduced health care costs
- Reduced travel time and increased accessibility for seniors, disabled patients, parents, and others who may face transportation barriers or other issues getting to in-person appointments
- Increased access for rural and frontier patients
- Improved attendance at appointments, fewer cancellations and no-shows
- Increased efficiency and patient satisfaction
- Increased learning and teaching opportunities for providers
- Increased opportunity for practitioners to provide care to rural communities and other underserved populations

### Bottom Line:

Equal coverage and reimbursement for telehealth services supports the importance of this practice. There are a wide range of benefits for patients and providers in telehealth, and this is especially true for rural and frontier communities.