
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5386

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Senate Health & Long Term Care (originally sponsored by Senators Becker, Cleveland, Rivers, O'Ban, Short, Braun, Wilson, L., Holy, Brown, Warnick, Bailey, Zeiger, Conway, and Van De Wege)

1 AN ACT Relating to training standards in providing telemedicine
2 services; and adding a new section to chapter 43.70 RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.70
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) The legislature finds that a large segment of Washington
7 residents do not have access to critical health care services.
8 Telemedicine is a way to increase access to health care services to
9 those who would otherwise not have reasonable access. The legislature
10 therefore intends to ensure that health care professionals who
11 provide services through telemedicine, as defined in RCW 70.41.020,
12 in cities and rural areas alike, have current information available,
13 making it possible for them to provide telemedicine services to the
14 entire state of Washington.

15 (2) Beginning January 1, 2020, a health care professional who
16 provides clinical services through telemedicine may complete a
17 telemedicine training. By January 1, 2020, the telemedicine
18 collaborative shall make a telemedicine training available on its web
19 site for use by health care professionals who use telemedicine
20 technology. If a health care professional completes the training, the

1 health care professional shall sign and retain an attestation. The
2 training:

3 (a) Must include information on current state and federal law,
4 liability, informed consent, and other criteria established by the
5 collaborative for the advancement of telemedicine, in collaboration
6 with the department and the Washington state medical quality
7 assurance commission;

8 (b) Must include a question and answer methodology to demonstrate
9 accrual of knowledge; and

10 (c) May be made available in electronic format and completed over
11 the internet.

12 (3) The training may be incorporated into existing telemedicine
13 training programs, provided that the training meets the requirements
14 in subsection (2) of this section.

15 (4) For purposes of this section, a "health care professional"
16 means a person licensed, registered, or certified to provide health
17 services.

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