
SENATE BILL 5386

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Senators Becker, Cleveland, Rivers, O'Ban, Short, Braun, Wilson, L., Holy, Brown, Warnick, Bailey, Zeiger, Conway, and Van De Wege

Read first time 01/18/19. Referred to Committee on Health & Long Term Care.

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, 2022, a health care professional who
16 provides clinical services through telemedicine shall complete
17 telemedicine training and attest acknowledgment and understanding,
18 and maintain documentation of training and attestation, prior to
19 providing services through telemedicine to patients located in
20 Washington. The training:

1 (a) Must include information on current state and federal law,
2 liability, informed consent, and other criteria established by the
3 collaborative for the advancement of telemedicine, in collaboration
4 with the department and the Washington state medical quality
5 assurance commission;
6 (b) Must include a question and answer methodology to demonstrate
7 accrual of knowledge; and
8 (c) May be made available in electronic format and completed over
9 the internet.
10 (3) The training required by this section may be incorporated
11 into existing telemedicine training programs, provided that the
12 training meets the requirements in subsection (2) of this section.
13 (4) The training and attestation of understanding required by
14 this section must be completed every four years.
15 (5) 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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