



Telehealth Alliance of Oregon

Advancing telehealth knowledge, practice and policy in Oregon

February 10, 2020

House Health Care Committee
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: HB 4101 – Telehealth Reimbursement

Chair Salinas and members of the Committee

The Telehealth Alliance of Oregon (TAO) would like to state its full support for HB 4101. This bill would ensure that health care services delivered via telehealth technologies – 2 way interactive video and asynchronous technologies approved by CMS for reimbursement – are reimbursed by the Coordinated Care Organizations in Oregon.

The use of telehealth is growing rapidly throughout the world as a means to provide better access to quality health care regardless of where the patient resides. Accessing care can be particularly difficult for patients receiving Medicaid who often represent some of our most medically vulnerable citizens - those who have multiple chronic conditions, many who live in rural and underserved areas, and who lack access to transportation. Using telehealth technologies allows the patient to receive quality care from the home, the work place, schools or a local primary care office in a timely manner can reduce the cost of care for that patient while improving his overall health and well-being.

However, if the provider of these services is unable to receive reimbursement for them from the payer, they will not be able to provide them. In Oregon, many of these services are reimbursed by Medicare and commercial payers. Please help ensure that Medicaid and CCOs pay for them as well.

Thank you for your consideration, and we urge you to vote in favor of this bill.

