

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7863

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue guidance on furnishing behavioral health services via telehealth to individuals with limited English proficiency under Medicare program.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 2, 2024

Mrs. STEEL (for herself, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Ms. LEE of Nevada) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue guidance on furnishing behavioral health services via telehealth to individuals with limited English proficiency under Medicare program.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. GUIDANCE ON FURNISHING BEHAVIORAL**  
4                               **HEALTH SERVICES VIA TELEHEALTH TO IN-**  
5                               **DIVIDUALS WITH LIMITED ENGLISH PRO-**  
6                               **FICIENCY UNDER MEDICARE PROGRAM.**

7       Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment  
8       of this section, the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-

1 ices shall issue and disseminate, or update and revise as  
2 applicable, guidance on the following:

3 (1) Best practices for providers to work with in-  
4 terpreters to furnish behavioral health services via  
5 video-based and audio-only telehealth, when video-  
6 based telehealth is not an option.

7 (2) Best practices on integrating the use of  
8 video platforms that enable multi-person video calls  
9 into behavioral health services furnished via tele-  
10 health.

11 (3) Best practices on teaching patients, espe-  
12 cially those with limited English proficiency, to use  
13 video-based telehealth platforms.

14 (4) Best practices for providing patient mate-  
15 rials, communications, and instructions in multiple  
16 languages, including text message appointment re-  
17 minders and prescription information.

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