

HOUSE No. 2114

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Daniel B. Winslow

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to full application of telemedicine coverage.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Daniel B. Winslow</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>
<i>Denise Andrews</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>
<i>Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>

HOUSE No. 2114

By Mr. Winslow of Norfolk, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2114) of Daniel B. Winslow, Denise Andrews and Carl M. Sciortino, Jr. relative to the use of interactive audio, video or other electronic media for the purpose of medical diagnosis, consultation or treatment. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

An Act relative to full application of telemedicine coverage.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Chapter 32A of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
- 2 section 17J, the following section:—
- 3
- 4 Section 17K. (a) For the purposes of this section, “telemedicine“ as it pertains to the delivery
- 5 of health care services, shall mean the use of interactive audio, video or other electronic media
- 6 for the purpose of diagnosis, consultation or treatment. “Telemedicine” shall not include the use
- 7 of audio-only telephone, facsimile machine or e-mail.
- 8
- 9 (b) An insurer may limit coverage of telemedicine services to those health care providers in a
- 10 telemedicine network approved by the insurer.
- 11
- 12 (c) A contract that provides coverage for services under this section may contain a provision
- 13 for a deductible, copayment or coinsurance requirement for a health care service provided
- 14 through telemedicine as long as the deductible, copayment or coinsurance does not exceed the
- 15 deductible, copayment or coinsurance applicable to an in-person consultation.
- 16
- 17 (d) Coverage for health care services under this section shall be consistent with coverage for
- 18 health care services provided through in-person consultation.
- 19
- 20
- 21 SECTION 2. Chapter 118E of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section

22 10G the following section:—

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24 Section 10H. (a) For the purposes of this section, “telemedicine“ as it pertains to the delivery
25 of health care services, shall mean the use of interactive audio, video or other electronic media
26 for the purpose of diagnosis, consultation or treatment. “Telemedicine” shall not include the use
27 of audio-only telephone, facsimile machine or e-mail.

28

29 (b) MassHealth may limit coverage of telemedicine services to those health care providers in a
30 telemedicine network approved by the MassHealth.

31

32 (c) A contract that provides coverage for services under this section may contain a provision
33 for a deductible, copayment or coinsurance requirement for a health care service provided
34 through telemedicine as long as the deductible, copayment or coinsurance does not exceed the
35 deductible, copayment or coinsurance applicable to an in-person consultation.

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37 (d) Coverage for health care services under this section shall be consistent with coverage for
38 health care services provided through in-person consultation.

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41 SECTION 3. Chapter 176A of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section
42 8EE the following section:—

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44 Section 8FF. (a) For the purposes of this section, “telemedicine“ as it pertains to the delivery of
45 health care services, shall mean the use of interactive audio, video or other electronic media for
46 the purpose of diagnosis, consultation or treatment. “Telemedicine” shall not include the use of
47 audio-only telephone, facsimile machine or e-mail.

48

49 (b) An insurer may limit coverage of telemedicine services to those health care providers in a
50 telemedicine network approved by the insurer.

51

52 (c) A contract that provides coverage for services under this section may contain a provision
53 for a deductible, copayment or coinsurance requirement for a health care service provided
54 through telemedicine as long as the deductible, copayment or coinsurance does not exceed the
55 deductible, copayment or coinsurance applicable to an in-person consultation.

56

57 (d) Coverage for health care services under this section shall be consistent with coverage for
58 health care services provided through in-person consultation.

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61 SECTION 4. Chapter 176B of the General Laws, is hereby amended by inserting after section

62 4EE the following section:—

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64 Section 4FF. (a) For the purposes of this section, “telemedicine“ as it pertains to the delivery of
65 health care services, shall mean the use of interactive audio, video or other electronic media for
66 the purpose of diagnosis, consultation or treatment. “Telemedicine” shall not include the use of
67 audio-only telephone, facsimile machine or e-mail.

68

69 (b) An insurer may limit coverage of telemedicine services to those health care providers in a
70 telemedicine network approved by the insurer.

71

72 (c) A contract that provides coverage for services under this section may contain a provision
73 for a deductible, copayment or coinsurance requirement for a health care service provided
74 through telemedicine as long as the deductible, copayment or coinsurance does not exceed the
75 deductible, copayment or coinsurance applicable to an in-person consultation.

76

77 (d) Coverage for health care services under this section shall be consistent with coverage for
78 health care services provided through in-person consultation.

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81 SECTION 5. Chapter 176G of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section
82 4W the following:—

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84 Section 4X. (a) For the purposes of this section, “telemedicine“ as it pertains to the delivery of
85 health care services, shall mean the use of interactive audio, video or other electronic media for
86 the purpose of diagnosis, consultation or treatment. “Telemedicine” shall not include the use of
87 audio-only telephone, facsimile machine or e-mail.

88

89 (b) An insurer may limit coverage of telemedicine services to those health care providers in a
90 telemedicine network approved by the insurer.

91

92 (c) A contract that provides coverage for services under this section may contain a provision
93 for a deductible, copayment or coinsurance requirement for a health care service provided
94 through telemedicine as long as the deductible, copayment or coinsurance does not exceed the
95 deductible, copayment or coinsurance applicable to an in-person consultation.

96

97 (d) Coverage for health care services under this section shall be consistent with coverage for
98 health care services provided through in-person consultation.

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100 SECTION 6. Chapter 176I of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section
101 12 the following new section:—

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103 Section 13. (a) For the purposes of this section, “telemedicine“ as it pertains to the delivery of
104 health care services, shall mean the use of interactive audio, video or other electronic media for
105 the purpose of diagnosis, consultation or treatment. “Telemedicine” shall not include the use of
106 audio-only telephone, facsimile machine or e-mail.

107

108 (b) An insurer may limit coverage of telemedicine services to those health care providers in a
109 telemedicine network approved by the insurer.

110

111 (c) A contract that provides coverage for services under this section may contain a provision
112 for a deductible, copayment or coinsurance requirement for a health care service provided
113 through telemedicine as long as the deductible, copayment or coinsurance does not exceed the
114 deductible, copayment or coinsurance applicable to an in-person consultation.

115

116 (d) Coverage for health care services under this section shall be consistent with coverage for
117 health care services provided through in-person consultation.

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