

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6538

To provide for a temporary increase in Federal financial participation under the Medicaid program for telehealth services, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 17, 2020

Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. UPTON, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To provide for a temporary increase in Federal financial participation under the Medicaid program for telehealth services, and for other purposes.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Modernized Medicine
5 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. TEMPORARY INCREASE IN MEDICAID FEDERAL FI-**
2 **NANCIAL PARTICIPATION FOR TELEHEALTH**
3 **SERVICES.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), for each
5 calendar quarter occurring during the period beginning on
6 the first day of the emergency period defined in paragraph
7 (1)(B) of section 1135(g) of the Social Security Act (42
8 U.S.C. 1320b–5(g)) and ending on the last day of the cal-
9 endar quarter in which the last day of such emergency
10 period occurs, in the case of a State that has expenditures
11 for telehealth services furnished during such quarter for
12 which payment may be made to the State under section
13 1903(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396b(a)),
14 the percentage of Federal financial participation otherwise
15 required to be paid to such State under such section for
16 such amounts expended shall be increased by one percent-
17 age point.

18 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—A State described in sub-
19 section (a) may not receive the percentage increase in Fed-
20 eral financial participation described in such subsection
21 with respect to a calendar quarter unless the State pro-
22 vides for telehealth services under the State plan approved
23 under such title XIX (or a waiver of such plan) during
24 such quarter in the same manner and to the same extent
25 that telehealth services are covered under section 1834(m)
26 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(m)), includ-

1 ing pursuant to any waiver under section 1135 of such
2 Act (42 U.S.C. 1320b–5). Nothing in the preceding sen-
3 tence shall be construed as requiring a State to pay for
4 telehealth services furnished to an individual eligible under
5 the State plan (or waiver) at a rate that would exceed the
6 payment amount that otherwise would be made under the
7 State plan (or waiver) for such services.

○