

**From:** Jill Olson <[jill@vnavt.org](mailto:jill@vnavt.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 21, 2022 11:36 AM  
**To:** Anne Donahue <[ADonahue@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:ADonahue@leg.state.vt.us)>  
**Cc:** William Lippert <[WLIPPERT@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:WLIPPERT@leg.state.vt.us)>; Lori Houghton <[LHoughton@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:LHoughton@leg.state.vt.us)>  
**Subject:** RE: Covid bill provisions, informed consent

Hello all,

I've actually left it to other colleagues to follow the action today! I would say I think you're correct that it's Ok to delete it. But just in case, I'll forward this message along to the coalition and if we have a concern, we can ask the Senate to reinsert it and let you know? Jill

**From:** Anne Donahue <[ADonahue@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:ADonahue@leg.state.vt.us)>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 21, 2022 9:59 AM  
**To:** Jill Olson <[jill@vnavt.org](mailto:jill@vnavt.org)>  
**Cc:** William Lippert <[WLIPPERT@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:WLIPPERT@leg.state.vt.us)>; Lori Houghton <[LHoughton@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:LHoughton@leg.state.vt.us)>  
**Subject:** Covid bill provisions, informed consent

Hello Jill,

Hopefully today we will vote the Covid bill out, and – though we can't see you in the committee room! – I assume you've been following our discussions.

Since I can't catch you in the hallway, I'm substituting this to touch base about ending the telehealth informed consent provision.

As I'm sure you recall, when we passed the first COVID emergency flexibility bill, we include a waiver of those requirements when it was "not practicable" because we wanted rapid access to expanded telehealth, and not everyone was ready yet with all the necessary tech pieces and forms, given new folks starting to use telehealth, etc.

Last year when we extended the COVID flexibilities, there was agreement that it did not need extension to March 31 because those protocols were all now in place and there was no need to waive informed consent. So it was placed in the basket of ending once the emergency ended. (Distinct from maintaining the HIPPA flexibility to March.)

However, the existing language actually says that it is re-triggered if there is a new emergency declared at any future time. Since this is fully functional now, this appears unnecessary, so we are looking to simply delete it (as referenced in discussion yesterday.)

Given earlier discussions, I'm assuming this is not an issue for the provider coalition.

Thanks,

Anne