

1 H.861

2 An act relating to reimbursement parity for health care services delivered in
3 person, by telemedicine, and by audio-only telephone and extending time
4 for flood abatement reimbursement

5 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

6 Sec. 1. 8 V.S.A. § 4100I is amended to read:

7 § 4100I. COVERAGE OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES DELIVERED BY
8 AUDIO-ONLY TELEPHONE

9 * * *

10 (b)(1) A health insurance plan shall provide coverage for all medically
11 necessary, clinically appropriate health care services delivered remotely by
12 audio-only telephone to the same extent that the plan would cover the services
13 if they were provided through in-person consultation. Services covered under
14 this subdivision shall include services that are covered when provided in the
15 home by home health agencies.

16 (2)(A) A health insurance plan shall provide the same reimbursement
17 rate for services billed using equivalent procedure codes and modifiers, subject
18 to the terms of the health insurance plan and provider contract, regardless of
19 whether the service was provided through an in-person visit with the health
20 care provider or by audio-only telephone.

21 (B) The provisions of subdivision (A) of this subdivision (2) shall not
22 apply in the event that a health insurer and health care provider enter into a

1 value-based contract for health care services that include care delivered by
2 audio-only telephone.

3 (c) A health insurance plan may charge an otherwise permissible
4 deductible, co-payment, or coinsurance for a health care service delivered by
5 audio-only telephone, provided that it does not exceed the deductible, co-
6 payment, or coinsurance applicable to an in-person consultation.

7 ~~(3)~~(d) A health insurance plan shall not require a health care provider to
8 have an existing relationship with a patient in order to be reimbursed for health
9 care services delivered by audio-only telephone.

10 Sec. 2. REPEAL; TELEMEDICINE REIMBURSEMENT PARITY SUNSET

11 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 91, Sec. 27 (repealing 8 V.S.A. § 4100k(a)(2),
12 telemedicine reimbursement parity, on January 1, 2026) is repealed.

13 Sec. 3. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 82, Sec. 1(a)(1) is amended to read:

14 (a)(1) The Commissioner of Taxes may approve an application by a
15 municipality for reimbursement of State education property tax payments owed
16 under 32 V.S.A. § 5402(c) and 16 V.S.A. § 426. To be eligible for
17 reimbursement under this section, prior to ~~April~~ November 15, 2024, a
18 municipality must have abated, in proportion to the abated municipal tax,
19 under 24 V.S.A. § 1535 the State education property taxes that were assessed
20 on eligible property, after application of any property tax credit allowed under
21 32 V.S.A. chapter 154.

1 Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATES

2 This act shall take effect on January 1, 2025, except this section and Sec. 3

3 (extension for flood abatement reimbursement) shall take effect on passage.