

HB 1617 -- TELEHEALTH

SPONSOR: Barnes (60)

This bill specifies that the Department of Social Services shall reimburse providers for services provided through telehealth if the providers can ensure that services are rendered meeting the standard of care that would be expected if the services were rendered in person. Telehealth services are the delivery of health care using technology to communicate with a health care provider who is at a different location than the patient. The department cannot make restrictions on providing services via telehealth. The department must reimburse providers of telehealth services in the same manner regardless of the originating and distant sites' proximity, as long as the distance is greater than what could be walked on foot by an average person in fewer than 20 minutes.

The bill specifies that before telehealth services can be provided in a school, the parent or guardian must give authorization.

This bill repeals several provisions relating to telehealth services within MO HealthNet.