April 2018

Vote Yes on Senate Bill 3049
Targeted Medicaid Telehealth Modernization
Reimburse High-Value Providers and Existing Medicaid Facilities

Issue: Current Illinois laws and regulations limit telehealth use and reimbursement, especially for persons insured by Medicaid.

IHA Position: IHA urges the General Assembly to approve Senate Bill 3049, amending the Public Aid Code to create targeted telehealth reimbursement for existing Medicaid providers and facilities. Improved telehealth coverage will strengthen access to provider networks, contribute to timely care in the most appropriate setting and help facilitate the integration of physical and behavioral healthcare into hospital and primary care settings.

Background:

Key Components of the Targeted Telehealth Modernization
1. Requires Medicaid to reimburse all existing Medicaid facilities when they serve as the originating site—where the patient is located.
   • Highly regulated, safe and secure inpatient hospital settings, assisted living facilities and skilled nursing facilities are all currently excluded from telehealth reimbursement.

2. Requires Medicaid to reimburse clinicians delivering behavioral health services via telehealth to the same extent as in-person delivery of services.
   • Permitting reimbursement for a more cost-effective workforce will create greater access to care.

3. Modernizes statutory language by updating “telepsychiatry” and “psychiatric mental health services” to “telehealth” and “behavioral and medical services”.
   • Reflects access needs that drive services and actual services delivered via telehealth – not just a segment of services.

Create Telehealth Access to Targeted Medicaid Services
Support High-Value Provider and Facility Reimbursement
Vote Yes on Senate Bill 3049