

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-second Legislature
Second Regular Session
2016

CHAPTER 278
SENATE BILL 1363

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 20-841.09, 20-1057.13, 20-1376.05 AND 20-1406.05, ARIZONA
REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO TELEMEDICINE.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 20-841.09, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 20-841.09. Telemedicine; coverage of health care services;
5 definitions

6 A. All contracts issued, delivered or renewed on or after January 1,
7 ~~2015~~ 2018 must provide coverage for health care services that are provided
8 through telemedicine if the health care service would be covered were it
9 provided through in-person consultation between the subscriber and a health
10 care provider and provided to a subscriber receiving the service in ~~a rural~~
11 ~~region of~~ this state. The contract may limit the coverage to those health
12 care providers who are members of the corporation's provider network.

13 B. This section does not prevent a corporation from imposing
14 deductibles, copayment or coinsurance requirements for a health care service
15 provided through telemedicine if the deductible, copayment or coinsurance
16 does not exceed the deductible, copayment or coinsurance applicable to an
17 in-person consultation for the same health care service.

18 C. Services provided through telemedicine or resulting from a
19 telemedicine consultation shall comply with Arizona licensure requirements,
20 accreditation standards and any practice guidelines of a national association
21 of medical professionals promoting access to medical care for consumers via
22 telecommunications technology or other qualified medical professional
23 societies to ensure quality of care.

24 D. This section does not apply to limited benefit coverage as defined
25 in section 20-1137.

26 E. For the purposes of this section:

27 1. "Health care services" means services provided for the following
28 conditions or in the following settings:

- 29 (a) Trauma.
- 30 (b) Burn.
- 31 (c) Cardiology.
- 32 (d) Infectious diseases.
- 33 (e) Mental health disorders.
- 34 (f) Neurologic diseases including strokes.
- 35 (g) Dermatology.
- 36 (h) PULMONOLOGY.

37 ~~2. "Rural region" means either:~~

38 ~~(a) An area that is located in a county with a population of less than~~
39 ~~nine hundred thousand persons.~~

40 ~~(b) A city or town that is located in a county with a population of~~
41 ~~nine hundred thousand persons or more and whose nearest boundary is more than~~
42 ~~thirty miles from the boundary of a city that has a population of five~~
43 ~~hundred thousand persons or more.~~

1 ~~3-~~ 2. "Telemedicine":

2 (a) Means the interactive use of audio, video or other electronic
3 media for the purpose of diagnosis, consultation or treatment.

4 (b) Does not include the sole use of an audio-only telephone, a
5 video-only system, a facsimile machine, instant messages or electronic mail.

6 Sec. 2. Section 20-1057.13, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
7 read:

8 20-1057.13. Telemedicine; coverage of health care services;
9 definitions

10 A. An evidence of coverage issued, delivered or renewed by a health
11 care services organization on or after January 1, ~~2015~~ 2018 must provide
12 coverage for health care services that are provided through telemedicine if
13 the health care service would be covered were it provided through in-person
14 consultation between the enrollee and a health care provider and provided to
15 an enrollee receiving the service in ~~a rural region of~~ this state. The
16 evidence of coverage may limit the coverage to those health care providers
17 who are members of the health care services organization's provider network.

18 B. This section does not prevent a health care services organization
19 from imposing deductibles, copayment or coinsurance requirements for a health
20 care service provided through telemedicine if the deductible, copayment or
21 coinsurance does not exceed the deductible, copayment or coinsurance
22 applicable to an in-person consultation for the same health care service.

23 C. Services provided through telemedicine or resulting from a
24 telemedicine consultation shall comply with Arizona licensure requirements,
25 accreditation standards and any practice guidelines of a national association
26 of medical professionals promoting access to medical care for consumers via
27 telecommunications technology or other qualified medical professional
28 societies to ensure quality of care.

29 D. This section does not apply to limited benefit coverage as defined
30 in section 20-1137.

31 E. For the purposes of this section:

32 1. "Health care services" means services provided for the following
33 conditions or in the following settings:

- 34 (a) Trauma.
- 35 (b) Burn.
- 36 (c) Cardiology.
- 37 (d) Infectious diseases.
- 38 (e) Mental health disorders.
- 39 (f) Neurologic diseases including strokes.
- 40 (g) Dermatology.
- 41 (h) PULMONOLOGY.

42 ~~2. "Rural region" means either:~~

43 ~~(a) An area that is located in a county with a population of less than~~
44 ~~nine hundred thousand persons.~~

45 ~~(b) A city or town that is located in a county with a population of~~
46 ~~nine hundred thousand persons or more and whose nearest boundary is more than~~

~~thirty miles from the boundary of a city that has a population of five hundred thousand persons or more.~~

~~3.~~ 2. "Telemedicine":

(a) Means the interactive use of audio, video or other electronic media for the purpose of diagnosis, consultation or treatment.

(b) Does not include the sole use of an audio-only telephone, a video-only system, a facsimile machine, instant messages or electronic mail.

Sec. 3. Section 20-1376.05, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

20-1376.05. Telemedicine: coverage of health care services: definitions

A. All policies issued, delivered or renewed by a disability insurer on or after January 1, ~~2015~~ 2018 must provide coverage for health care services that are provided through telemedicine if the health care service would be covered were it provided through in-person consultation between the insured and a health care provider and provided to an insured receiving the service in ~~a rural region of~~ this state. The policy may limit the coverage to those health care providers who are members of the disability insurer's provider network.

B. This section does not prevent a disability insurer from imposing deductibles, copayment or coinsurance requirements for a health care service provided through telemedicine if the deductible, copayment or coinsurance does not exceed the deductible, copayment or coinsurance applicable to an in-person consultation for the same health care service.

C. Services provided through telemedicine or resulting from a telemedicine consultation shall comply with Arizona licensure requirements, accreditation standards and any practice guidelines of a national association of medical professionals promoting access to medical care for consumers via telecommunications technology or other qualified medical professional societies to ensure quality of care.

D. This section does not apply to limited benefit coverage as defined in section 20-1137.

E. For the purposes of this section:

1. "Health care services" means services provided for the following conditions or in the following settings:

- (a) Trauma.
- (b) Burn.
- (c) Cardiology.
- (d) Infectious diseases.
- (e) Mental health disorders.
- (f) Neurologic diseases including strokes.
- (g) Dermatology.
- (h) PULMONOLOGY.

~~2. "Rural region" means either:~~

~~(a) An area that is located in a county with a population of less than nine hundred thousand persons.~~

1 ~~(b) A city or town that is located in a county with a population of~~
2 ~~nine hundred thousand persons or more and whose nearest boundary is more than~~
3 ~~thirty miles from the boundary of a city that has a population of five~~
4 ~~hundred thousand persons or more.~~

5 ~~3.~~ 2. "Telemedicine":

6 (a) Means the interactive use of audio, video or other electronic
7 media for the purpose of diagnosis, consultation or treatment.

8 (b) Does not include the sole use of an audio-only telephone, a
9 video-only system, a facsimile machine, instant messages or electronic mail.

10 Sec. 4. Section 20-1406.05, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
11 read:

12 20-1406.05. Telemedicine; coverage of health care services;
13 definitions

14 A. All policies issued, delivered or renewed by a group disability
15 insurer or a blanket disability insurer on or after January 1, ~~2015~~ 2018 must
16 provide coverage for health care services that are provided through
17 telemedicine if the health care service would be covered were it provided
18 through in-person consultation between the insured and a health care provider
19 and provided to an insured receiving the service in ~~a rural region of~~ this
20 state. The policy may limit the coverage to those health care providers who
21 are members of the insurer's provider network.

22 B. This section does not prevent a group or blanket disability insurer
23 from imposing deductibles, copayment or coinsurance requirements for a health
24 care service provided through telemedicine if the deductible, copayment or
25 coinsurance does not exceed the deductible, copayment or coinsurance
26 applicable to an in-person consultation for the same health care service.

27 C. Services provided through telemedicine or resulting from a
28 telemedicine consultation shall comply with Arizona licensure requirements,
29 accreditation standards and any practice guidelines of a national association
30 of medical professionals promoting access to medical care for consumers via
31 telecommunications technology or other qualified medical professional
32 societies to ensure quality of care.

33 D. This section does not apply to limited benefit coverage as defined
34 in section 20-1137.

35 E. For the purposes of this section:

36 1. "Health care services" means services provided for the following
37 conditions or in the following settings:

38 (a) Trauma.

39 (b) Burn.

40 (c) Cardiology.

41 (d) Infectious diseases.

42 (e) Mental health disorders.

43 (f) Neurologic diseases including strokes.

44 (g) Dermatology.

45 (h) PULMONOLOGY.

1 ~~2. "Rural region" means either:~~
2 ~~(a) An area that is located in a county with a population of less than~~
3 ~~nine hundred thousand persons.~~
4 ~~(b) A city or town that is located in a county with a population of~~
5 ~~nine hundred thousand persons or more and whose nearest boundary is more than~~
6 ~~thirty miles from the boundary of a city that has a population of five~~
7 ~~hundred thousand persons or more.~~
8 ~~3.~~ 2. "Telemedicine":
9 (a) Means the interactive use of audio, video or other electronic
10 media for the purpose of diagnosis, consultation or treatment.
11 (b) Does not include the sole use of an audio-only telephone, a
12 video-only system, a facsimile machine, instant messages or electronic mail.
13 Sec. 5. Effective date
14 This act is effective from and after December 31, 2017.

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR MAY 17, 2016.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE MAY 17, 2016.