

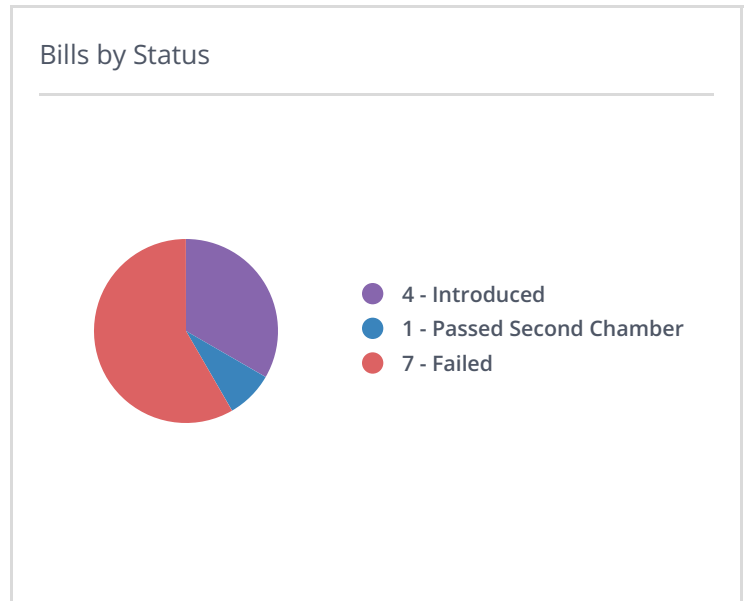
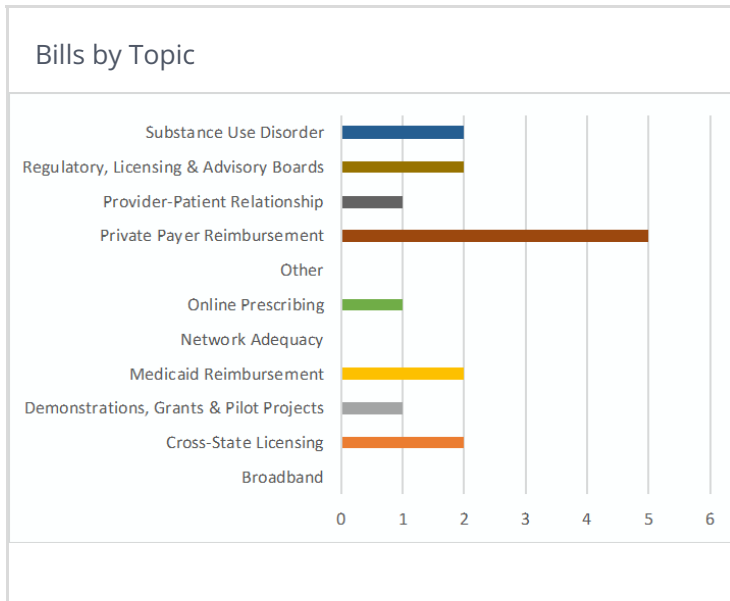
South Central Telehealth Resource Center - Feb. 2019

Last Updated: March 04, 2019

South Central Telehealth Resource Center provides telehealth technical assistance to Arkansas, Mississippi, and Tennessee.

A few notes about this report:

1. Bills are organized into specific telehealth "topic area".
2. The Fiscal Note (FN) Outlook: The left hand column indicates the bill's Pre-Floor Score, and the right hand column indicates the bill's actual Floor Score of the last chamber it was in (either Senate or House).
3. Regulations are listed at the end in order of their publication date.
4. If you would like to learn more about any piece of legislation or regulation, the bill numbers and regulation titles are clickable and link out to additional information.



All Bills

Cross-State Licensing (2)

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	FN Outlook
AR	HB 1421	Read The Third Time And Passed 2019 02 28	Passed Senate	96.9% 93.0%
Title To Establish The Interstate Physical Therapy Licensure Compact In Arkansas.		Bill Summary: Enacts the Interstate Physical Therapy Licensure Compact in Arkansas.		
Primary Sponsors Justin Boyd				

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
MS	SB 2731	Died In Committee 2019 02 05	Failed

Title
Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Program; transfer from State Department of Health to MS Department of Insurance.

Bill Summary: Enacts the Emergency Medical Services Personnel Licensure Interstate Compact.

Description
An Act To Transfer The Emergency Medical Services Program (Ems) From The State Department Of Health To The Mississippi Department Of Insurance; To Provide For The Transfer Of Employees, Property, Staff And Funds; To Provide For The Transfer Of The Authority To Certify Emergency Medical Technicians; To Amend Or Bring Forward Sections 41-59-1 Through 41-59-79 And 41-60-11, 41-60-13, 41-60-31 And 41-60-33, Mississippi Code Of 1972, In Conformity; And For Related Purposes.

Primary Sponsors
Videt Carmichael

Demonstrations, Grants & Pilot Projects (1)

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	FN Outlook
AR	HB 1471	Filed 2019 02 14	In House	49.7% 81.4%

Title
To Create The Mental Health For Individuals Who Are Deaf Or Hard Of Hearing Bill Of Rights Act.

Bill Summary: Provides for statewide mental health services and requires the Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services of the Department of Human Services to develop and implement strategies for ensuring access to culturally affirmative mental health services and linguistically appropriate mental health services by clients in geographic areas where there is a lack of shortage of certified mental health professionals, which may include telemedicine or other remote technology.

Primary Sponsors
Charlene Fite

Medicaid Reimbursement (2)

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
MS	SB 2064	Died In Committee 2019 02 05	Failed

Title
Telemedicine medical services to students in school-based setting; authorize Medicaid reimbursement to physicians.

Bill Summary: This bill authorizes telemedicine reimbursement for Medicaid that is delivered to students in a school-based setting.

Description
An Act To Amend Section 43-13-117, Mississippi Code Of 1972, To Authorize Medicaid Reimbursement To Physicians Providing Telemedicine Medical Services To Students In A School-Based Setting; And For Related Purposes.

Primary Sponsors
Terry Burton

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
MS	SB 2689	Died In Committee 2019 02 05	Failed

Title

Health insurance and telemedicine services; impose certain statutory conditions.

Description

An Act To Amend Section 83-9-351, Mississippi Code Of 1972, To Provide That A Health Insurance Or Employee Benefit Plan Shall Not Delay Or Condition Payment To A Health Care Provider On The Coordination Of The Filing Of Claims Between Originating And Distant Sites; To Amend Section 83-9-353, Mississippi Code Of 1972, To Provide That Store And Forward Telemedicine Services And Remote Patient Monitoring Services Shall Not Be Unduly Restricted Based On The Patient'S Geographic Proximity To A Network Provider; And For Related Purposes.

Primary Sponsors

Josh Harkins

Bill Summary: Makes certain adjustments to Mississippi's telehealth private payer law requirements, such as requiring that health plans not place geographic restrictions on the use of telehealth, and other billing/technical requirements. It also reduces the requirements on coverage for remote patient monitoring services.

[Online Prescribing \(1\)](#)

Title
Opioid Crisis Intervention Act; create.

Bill Summary: Authorizes telemedicine providers to provide treatment for substance use disorder, including medication assisted treatment.

Description

An Act To Be Known As The "Opioid Crisis Intervention Act"; To Amend Section 41-29-149.1, Mississippi Code Of 1972, To Expand The Types Of Drug Violations For Which A Person May Not Be Prosecuted When Complying With The Mississippi Medical Emergency Good Samaritan Act; To Amend Section 41-127-1, Mississippi Code Of 1972, To Authorize Telemedicine Providers To Provide Treatment For Substance Use Disorders, Including Medication Assisted Treatment; To Authorize Municipalities, Counties And Public Or Private Educational Institutions To Adopt A Pre-Arrest Diversion Program To Which Law Enforcement Officers May Divert Adults Who Commit A Nonviolent Offense; To Require Adults Who Are Diverted To Be Provided Appropriate Assessment, Intervention, Education And Behavioral Health Care Services; To Authorize The Law Enforcement Agency To Criminally Charge The Adult For The Original Offense And Refer The Case To The Appropriate Prosecuting Agency If The Adult Does Not Participate In The Pre-Arrest Diversion Program; To Prohibit An Arrest Record From Being Associated With The Offense If The Adult Successfully Completes The Diversion Program; To Amend Section 63-1-53, Mississippi Code Of 1972, To Provide That After Certain Notice Is Given To A Person Failing To Timely Pay Any Fines, Fees And Assessments Relating To A Traffic Violation Within 90 Days Of Receiving The Notice, The Person Is Subject To Having The Fines, Fees And Assessments Collected By A Court Rather Than Having His Or Her License Suspended; To Amend Section 63-1-52, Mississippi Code Of 1972, In Conformity To The Preceding Section; To Amend Section 63-1-71, Mississippi Code Of 1972, To Delete The Requirement That A Person'S License Be Suspended For A Controlled Substance Violation That Is Unrelated To Operating A Motor Vehicle; To Amend Section 63-1-51, Mississippi Code Of 1972, To Delete The Offense Of Contempt For Failure To Pay A Fine Or Fee Or Failure To Respond To A Summons Or Citation Relating To A Traffic Violation As A Grounds For Revoking A Person'S License; To Amend Section 9-23-15, Mississippi Code Of 1972, To Authorize A Judge To Allow A Person To Be Eligible For Alternative Sentencing Through A Drug Court If He Or She Has Been Convicted Of Burglary Of An Unoccupied Dwelling; To Amend Section 9-23-13, Mississippi Code Of 1972, To Require Drug Courts To Allow Participants To Use Medication Assisted Treatment While Participating In A Drug Court Program; And For Related Purposes.

Primary Sponsors

Chris Brown

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
MS	HB 738	Died In Committee 2019 02 05	Failed

Title

Telemedicine; revise insurance laws regarding.

Description

An Act To Amend Section 83 9 351, Mississippi Code Of 1972, To Provide That A Health Insurance Or Employee Benefit Plan Shall Not Delay Or Condition Payment To A Health Care Provider On The Coordination Of The Filing Of Claims Between Originating And Distant Sites; To Amend Section 83 9 353, Mississippi Code Of 1972, To Remove Certain Restrictions On Store And Forward Telemedicine Services And Remote Patient Monitoring Services; And For Related Purposes.

Primary Sponsors

Brent Powell

Bill Summary: Removes certain restrictions on the reimbursement of store and forward and remote patient monitoring. It also states that no geographic restrictions may be placed on coverage and that an insurer cannot delay or condition payment on the coordination of the filing of claims between the originating and distant site providing telemedicine for the same episode of care.

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
MS	SB 2689	Died In Committee 2019 02 05	Failed

Title

Health insurance and telemedicine services; impose certain statutory conditions.

Description

An Act To Amend Section 83-9-351, Mississippi Code Of 1972, To Provide That A Health Insurance Or Employee Benefit Plan Shall Not Delay Or Condition Payment To A Health Care Provider On The Coordination Of The Filing Of Claims Between Originating And Distant Sites; To Amend Section 83-9-353, Mississippi Code Of 1972, To Provide That Store And Forward Telemedicine Services And Remote Patient Monitoring Services Shall Not Be Unduly Restricted Based On The Patient'S Geographic Proximity To A Network Provider; And For Related Purposes.

Primary Sponsors

Josh Harkins

Bill Summary: Makes certain adjustments to Mississippi's telehealth private payer law requirements, such as requiring that health plans not place geographic restrictions on the use of telehealth, and other billing/technical requirements. It also reduces the requirements on coverage for remote patient monitoring services.

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status
MS	SB 2690	Died In Committee 2019 02 05	Failed

Title

Health insurance and telemedicine services; impose certain statutory conditions.

Description

An Act To Amend Section 83-9-351, Mississippi Code Of 1972, To Provide That A Health Insurance Or Employee Benefit Plan Shall Not Delay Or Condition Payment To A Health Care Provider On The Coordination Of The Filing Of Claims Between Originating And Distant Sites; To Amend Section 83-9-353, Mississippi Code Of 1972, To Provide That Store And Forward Telemedicine Services And Remote Patient Monitoring Services Shall Not Be Unduly Restricted Based On The Patient'S Geographic Proximity To A Network Provider; And For Related Purposes.

Primary Sponsors

Dean Kirby

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	FN Outlook
TN	HB 753	Assigned To S C Life Health Insurance Subcommittee 2019 02 11	In House	4.2% 73.6%

Title

Insurance Companies, Agents, Brokers, Policies - As introduced, adds a patient's residence and place of employment, if equipped to engage in telehealth communications, as locations a patient may be and receive telehealth services covered by health insurance; prohibits health insurance entities from distinguishing among geographic locations in the reimbursement for telehealth services; removes certain types of insurance from telehealth coverage exemption. - Amends TCA Title 56.

Bill Summary: Amends Tennessee's private payer telehealth law to incorporate in the definition of telehealth remote patient monitoring. It also would allow a school or patient's residence to be a qualified site.

Primary Sponsors

Robin Smith

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	FN Outlook
TN	SB 1169	Passed On Second Consideration Refer To Senate Commerce And Labor Committee 2019 02 11	In Senate	92.3% 76.7%

Title

Insurance Companies, Agents, Brokers, Policies - As introduced, adds a patient's residence and place of employment, if equipped to engage in telehealth communications, as locations a patient may be and receive telehealth services covered by health insurance; prohibits health insurance entities from distinguishing among geographic locations in the reimbursement for telehealth services; removes certain types of insurance from telehealth coverage exemption. - Amends TCA Title 56.

Bill Summary: Amends Tennessee's telehealth private payer law to include remote patient monitoring and additional patient locations.

Primary Sponsors

Art Swann

Provider-Patient Relationship (1)

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	FN Outlook
AR	HB 1220	Filed 2019 01 22	In House	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"><div>74.9%</div><div>74.3%</div></div>
Title To Amend The Telemedicine Act; To Ensure That Telemedicine Is The Least Restrictive Method To Deliver Healthcare Services Remotely; And To Expand The Definition Of "Professional Relationship".		Bill Summary: Amends rules for establishing a professional relationship over telemedicine. Allows a professional relationship to exist through telemedicine as long as the standard of care has been met in the opinion of the healthcare professional and the professional has access to the patient's medical history.		
Primary Sponsors Dan Sullivan				

Regulatory, Licensing & Advisory Boards (2)

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	FN Outlook
AR	HB 1220	Filed 2019 01 22	In House	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"><div>74.9%</div><div>74.3%</div></div>
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Opioid Crisis Intervention Act; create.

Bill Summary: Authorizes telemedicine providers to provide treatment for substance use disorder, including medication assisted treatment.

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Primary Sponsors

Sally Doty

Pending Regulation

State	Reg. Citation	Status	Summary
Tennessee	11-13-18	11/21/18: Proposed Rule	Title: Rules for Medical Payments Agency: Labor and Workforce Development Stipulates that payments for telehealth through Workers' Compensation shall be the same as applicable through Medicare with the exception of any geographic restriction.
Tennessee	11-02-18	11/5/18: Proposed Rule	Title: Rules Governing the Practice of Dentistry Agency: Board of Dentistry This rule establishes treatment standards for teledentistry.
Arkansas	060.00.18-006	10/31/18: Proposed Rule	Title: Telemedicine Agency: State Medical Board Amends rules related to requirements around establishing a patient provider relationship to replace the words "physician/physician assistant" with "provider" and define "Provider" as a person licensed by the Arkansas State Medical Board.
Arkansas	060.00.18-005	10/31/18: Proposed Rule	Title: Patient/Provider Relationships Agency: State Medical Board Makes amendments to Arkansas' rules concerning establishing the patient/provider relationship.
Mississippi	30 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 2840	8/24/18: Proposed Rule	Title: Advanced Practice Agency: Mississippi Board of Nursing The Mississippi Board of Nursing is proposing amendments to Part 2840 directly related to how Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) prescribe controlled substances and utilize the Mississippi Prescription Monitoring Program. The amendments seek to address the ongoing Opioid and controlled substance epidemic in Mississippi. Further, the Board seeks to enhance clarity and format in multiple

			portions of Part 2840, including but not limited to APRN Monitored Practice Hours.
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