

ENGROSSED HOUSE
BILL NO. 2868

By: Ervin

(telemedicine - Oklahoma Telehealth Act - codification -
effective date)

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-2701 of Title 63, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma Telehealth Act".

B. The purpose of the Oklahoma Telehealth Act shall be to provide for the continued statewide development and implantation of a system for the delivery of medical and other health care services through the statewide telecommunications system.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-2702 of Title 63, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created the Oklahoma Council on Telehealth. The Council shall be composed of thirteen (13) members as follows:

1. Two members appointed by the State Commissioner of Health, one of whom shall represent emergency medical services, and one of whom shall represent the Office of Rural Health Care;

2. The Director or designee of the Oklahoma Health Care Authority;

3. Eight members appointed by the Governor, as follows:

- a. one member who shall be the Executive Director or designee of a statewide hospital organization,
- b. one member who shall represent a statewide organization of allopathic physicians,
- c. one member who shall represent a statewide organization of osteopathic physicians,
- d. three members who shall represent rural hospitals, and
- e. two members who shall represent urban tertiary hospitals;

4. One member appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate who shall be a member of the Oklahoma State Senate; and

5. One member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives who shall be a member of the House of Representatives.

B. The Council shall meet at least quarterly. At the first meeting the Council shall elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman, and shall elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman annually thereafter. The members of the Council shall serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed in accordance with the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

C. The entity responsible for the administration and operations of the statewide telecommunications system shall appoint a liaison to the Council and shall provide administrative and staff support for the Council. The liaison shall be responsible for transmitting the information, advice and recommendations of the Council to the entity responsible for the statewide telecommunications system.

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-2703 of Title 63, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The Oklahoma Council on Telehealth shall provide information and advice and shall make recommendations regarding:

1. The continued statewide development and implantation of a system for the delivery of medical and other health care services

through the statewide telecommunications system, including but not limited to training of health care and other personnel in the use of the telehealth system, reliable technical assistance and support on a continuous basis, methods of reimbursement for telehealth services and methods of expanding the statewide availability and utilization of telehealth services;

2. Methods of ensuring that the telehealth system supports and meets the needs of a statewide trauma system and critical access hospitals, and utilizes available federal funds to the maximum extent possible; and

3. Integration of new and emerging technologies and applications for the delivery of health care services through telecommunications into the telehealth system.

B. The Council shall forward its recommendations to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives at least annually.

SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 1998.

Passed the House of Representatives the 9th day of March, 1998.

Speaker of the House of
Representatives

Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 1998.

President of the Senate