



March 28, 2023

The Honorable Fabian Doñate  
Chair, Senate Health and Human Services Committee  
Nevada Legislature  
1724 Bracken Avenue  
Las Vegas, NV 89104

The Honorable Rochelle T. Nguyen  
Vice Chair, Senate Health and Human Services Committee  
Nevada Legislature  
P. O. Box 26025  
Las Vegas, NV 89126-0025

**RE: ATA ACTION SUPPORT OF SB 119**

Dear Chair Doñate, Vice Chair Nguyen, and Members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee,

On behalf of ATA Action, I am writing you to comment and express our support for Senate Bill 119, as well as recommend that coverage also be extended to audio-only modalities.

ATA Action, the American Telemedicine Association's affiliated trade association focused on advocacy, advances policy to ensure all individuals have permanent access to telehealth services across the care continuum. ATA Action supports the enactment of state and federal telehealth policies to secure telehealth access for all Americans, including those in rural and underserved communities. ATA Action recognizes that telehealth and virtual care have the potential to truly transform the health care delivery system – by improving patient outcomes, enhancing safety and effectiveness of care, addressing health disparities, and reducing costs – if only allowed to flourish.

SB 119 will protect an important step forward for Nevada's telehealth policy. The bill removes the sunset date for the time frame in which non-industrial insurers are required to cover services provided via telehealth. This will ensure that patients who have come to rely on telehealth care will not have their care interrupted and continue extended access to high-quality healthcare for all Nevada patients. Permanently requiring insurance coverage of telehealth provides certainty for patients, protects patient choice and sustains the positive impacts of telehealth on patient outcomes and the healthcare system.

ATA Action is pleased to see the extension of coverage for telehealth care but urges the Legislature to permanently include audio-only modalities in the definition of telehealth. ATA Action supports the adoption of technology-neutral telemedicine policies that enable practitioners to utilize synchronous, (real-time) audio-visual or audio-only, and asynchronous (non-real-time) technologies in the delivery of care. ATA Action maintains that policy makers should not restrict the modalities which practitioners may use when providing care to patients, permitting licensed health care professionals to determine which technologies are sufficient to meet the standard of care for the condition presented by the patient. This

**ATA ACTION**

901 N. Glebe Road, Ste 850 | Arlington, VA 22203  
Info@ataaction.org



Telehealth Policy to Transform Healthcare

will be especially beneficial for citizens without reliable internet access, due to broadband or personal technological limitations.

As far as the rate of reimbursement for telehealth services is concerned, ATA Action maintains that state policymakers should set rational guidelines that are both fair to the provider of such services and reflect the cost savings offered to the health care system by the effective use of telehealth technologies.

Thank you for your support for telehealth. We encourage you and your colleagues to support this legislation and consider other actions that will expand coverage to audio-only telehealth care in Nevada. Please let us know if there is anything that we can do to assist you in your efforts to adopt practical telehealth policy in Nevada. If you have any questions or would like to engage in additional discussion regarding the telehealth industry's perspective, please contact me at [kzebley@ataaction.org](mailto:kzebley@ataaction.org).

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kyle Zebley".

Kyle Zebley  
Executive Director  
ATA Action

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