



March 27, 2023

The Honorable Charles Wesley Clemons Sr.
Chair, Healthcare Regulation Subcommittee
The Florida House of Representatives
422 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

The Honorable David Borrero
Vice Chair, Healthcare Regulation Subcommittee
The Florida House of Representatives
315 House Office Building
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

RE: ATA ACTION SUPPORT FOR HB 267

Dear Chair Clemons, Vice Chair Borrero, and members of the House Healthcare Regulation Subcommittee,

On behalf of ATA Action, I am writing to express our strong support for House Bill 267.

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 coverage and fair payment 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.

House Bill 267 serves as an important expansion of Florida's state telehealth policy. The bill would revise the definition of telehealth to remove the prohibition on using audio-only telephone calls to deliver virtual care.

ATA Action applauds the Legislature's attempt to establish a more technology-neutral definition of telehealth in Florida. Our organization believes that licensed practitioners should be able to utilize the full range of available telehealth technologies while delivering virtual care, so long as the technologies being used are appropriate to meet the standard of care for the condition presented by the patient. Amending the definition of telehealth to include audio-only phone calls will make it much easier for patients and providers to interact with each other whenever and wherever they need to. This provision will be especially beneficial to the Floridians who do not

ATA ACTION

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



have access to the high-speed broadband capabilities necessary to operate audiovisual technologies.

We thank you for your support of telehealth in Florida. We urge you and your colleagues to pass House Bill 267 in the interest of expanding access to affordable, high-quality health care across the state. Please do not hesitate to let us know how we can be helpful in your efforts to advance common-sense telehealth policy in Florida. If you have any questions or would like to discuss the telehealth industry's perspective further, please contact me at kzebley@ataaction.org.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kyle Zebley", is written over a light gray circular watermark.

Kyle Zebley
Executive Director
ATA Action