



April 12, 2023

The Honorable Joe Baldacci
Chair, Committee on Health and Human Services
Maine Legislature
House Majority Office
P.O. Box 1423,
Bangor, ME 04402

The Honorable Michele Meyer
Chair, Committee on Health and Human Services
Maine Legislature
58 Odiorne Lane
Eliot, ME 03903

RE: ATA ACTION SUPPORT FOR LEGISLATIVE DOCUMENT 757

Dear Chair Baldacci, Chair Meyer and members of the Committee on Health and Human Services,

On behalf of ATA Action, I am writing you to express our support for Legislative Document 757 regarding telemonitoring services.

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.

ATA Action is appreciative of the legislature's efforts to expand MaineCare patients' access to telemonitoring services by requiring MaineCare coverage for telemonitoring services. This will make it much easier for MaineCare patients to access high-quality telemonitoring care, improve patient outcomes and make it easier for providers to deliver the care that patients need and want.

Additionally, increasing patient access to home telemonitoring services will help prevent and address emergency situations which could require patients to contact their healthcare provider for assistance or guidance, facilitating greater patient safety. Further empowering providers to monitor patients remotely will make it substantially easier for patients – especially those in rural and underserved communities – to receive the services they need. Instead of travelling long

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distances to see their preferred providers, providing coverage for telemonitoring services will make it easier for MaineCare care patients to get high-quality, affordable care from the comfort of their own homes, and health care providers will be more easily able to monitor patient conditions.

Thank you for your support for telehealth. We encourage you and your colleagues to pass Legislative Document 757 in the interest of expanding MaineCare patients' access to affordable, high-quality care. Please let us know if there is anything that we can do to assist you in your efforts to adopt practical telehealth policy in Maine. 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.

Kind regards,

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

Kyle Zebley
Executive Director
ATA Action