



March 11, 2025

The Honorable Bob Morgan
Chairperson, House Health Care Licenses Committee
Illinois General Assembly
519-A Stratton Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706

RE: ATA ACTION SUPPORT FOR HB 2895

Dear Chairperson Morgan and members of the House Health Care Licenses Committee:

On behalf of ATA Action, I am writing to you to express our support for House Bill 2895 regarding allowing out-of-state health care professionals to treat college students in Illinois.

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 2895 allows out-of-state health care professionals to treat patients located in Illinois through telehealth if the patient is a student attending an institution of higher education in Illinois but is otherwise not a resident in the state when not attending the institution of higher education. We agree with and support state policies that provide additional authorizations to allow licensed out-of-state providers to treat in-state patients, particularly for continuity of care purposes where a provider already has a relationship with a patient. We greatly appreciate this commitment to advancing telehealth access, particularly across state boundaries.

This legislation is especially impactful as the transition to higher education can present daunting mental health challenges for students, particularly those leaving their home state. Allowing students to continue seeing mental health and other health care professionals they already have a relationship with via telehealth, without requiring additional steps by the provider, will help ease that transition, promote continuity of care and lead to better patient health outcomes.

Thank you for your support for telehealth. Please let us know if there is anything that we can do to assist you in your efforts to adopt practical telehealth policy in Illinois. 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 Zee", is written over a light gray circular watermark.

ATA ACTION

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Kyle Zebley
Executive Director
ATA Action