



September 15, 2025

Benjamin Ebeigbe
Director, Long Term Care Administration
Department of Health Care Finance
441 4th Street, NW
Suite 900S
Washington, D.C. 20001

**RE: ATA ACTION SUPPORT FOR HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES WAIVER
FOR PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

Dear Director Ebeigbe,

On behalf of ATA Action, I am writing to you in strong support of the proposed changes the District is seeking for Intellectual and Developmental Disability (IDD) Waiver services, specifically the addition of telehealth as a modality option for a multitude of services such as behavioral support, occupational therapy and wellness services and the addition of health and assessment and coordination services to the IDD Waiver. These proposed changes represent a meaningful step forward in expanding access to telehealth care for people with IDD.

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 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.

Including telehealth as a modality option for assistive technology assessment, behavioral support services, creative arts therapies, family training services, occupational therapy services, parenting support services, speech, hearing, and language services and wellness services, including bereavement counseling, fitness training, nutrition evaluation and counseling, and sexuality education will allow providers to better meet patients where they are for the delivery of care and support improved patient outcomes for people with IDD. Not only does this increase the convenience of the delivery of services but it can also be cost saving for patients and their families who will be able to access these services without costly, and potentially stressful, travel across the District.

Furthermore, our organization is strongly supportive of the addition of health assessment and coordination as a new service to the Waiver. As stated in the proposed amendment, this change will allow for triaged telehealth services to be delivered in the home which will increase patient access to care and reduce the risk of unnecessary, and more costly, emergency room visits.

Thank you for filing this request for changes to the IDD Waiver in the interest of expanding patient access to telehealth care. We are grateful for the opportunity to comment. ATA Action appreciates the District's

ATA ACTION

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leadership and stands ready to serve as a resource for the District on matters regarding the telehealth industry. Please feel free to contact me at kzebley@ataaction.org with any questions.

Kind regards,

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

Kyle Zebley
Executive Director
ATA Action