

Telehealth Bills Introduced in the 113th Congress

Bill	Lead Sponsors	Number of Cosponsors	Summary
House of Representatives			
1 H.R. 28, Working Families' Access to Healthcare Innovations Act of 2013 , introduced 1/3/2013	Rep. Nydia Velazquez (D-NY)	0	Allows the Small Business Administration to guarantee up to 90% of a loan made to a health care professional for the acquisition and instillation of health information technology.
2 H.R. 541, PREEMIE Reauthorization Act , introduced 2/6/2013	Rep. Anna Eshoo (D-CA), Rep. Leonard Lance (R-NJ)	63	Requires that preferential treatment be given to grant applications that propose supporting telehealth networks that provide prenatal care for mothers facing high-risk pregnancies.
3 H.R. 574, Medicare Physician Payment Innovation Act of 2013 , introduced 2/6/2013	Rep. Allyson Schwartz (D-PA), Rep. Joe Heck (R-NV)	39	Establishes telemedicine services and home care plan oversight services as additional service categories within Section 1848(j) of the Social Security Act.
4 H.R. 1134, Rural Veterans Healthcare Accessibility Improvement Act , introduced 3/13/2013	Rep. Pete Gallego (D-TX)	0	In addition to providing travel grants to veterans, "otherwise assists in providing medical care to veterans in highly rural areas" through the use of interoperable electronic health records.
5 H.R. 1173, Personalize Your Care Act of 2013 , introduced 3/14/2013	Rep. Earl Blumenauer (D-OR), Rep. Richard Hanna (R-NY)	57	Directs the HHS Secretary to adopt standards for qualified electronic health records with respect to patient communications with a health care provider regarding an advance directive and/or physician order for life-sustaining treatment.
6 H.R. 1200, American Health Security Act of 2013 , introduced 3/14/2013	Rep. Jim McDermott (D-WA)	0	Requires a comprehensive health service organization (CHSO) to promote evidence-based medicine and patient engagement and coordinate care, such as through telehealth, remote patient monitoring, and other such enabling technologies.
7 H.R. 1274, Access to Quality Diabetes Education Act of 2013 , introduced 3/19/2013	Rep. Ed Whitfield (R-KY), 15 Rep. Diana DeGette (D-CO)	15	Allows certified diabetes educators to provide self-management training, including as part of telehealth services, through Medicare Part B.
8 H.R. 1309, Health Information Technology Reform Act , introduced 3/21/2013	Rep. Tom Price (R-GA), Rep. Ron Kind (D-WI)	30	Amends titles XVIII (Medicare) and XIX (Medicaid) of the Social Security Act to exclude pathologists from Medicare and Medicaid incentive payments and, in particular, penalties relating to the meaningful use of electronic health records.
9 H.R. 1666, Patient Centered Quality Care for Life Act , introduced 4/23/2013	Rep. Emanuel Cleaver (D-MO), Rep. Spencer Bachus (R-AL)	110	Creates a stakeholder strategic summit for palliative care, addressing several issues including health information technology.

10	H.R. 2001, Veterans E-Health & Telemedicine Support Act of 2013 , introduced 5/15/2013	Rep. Charles Rangel (D-NY), Rep. Glenn “GT” Thompson (R-PA)	69	Improves the ability of health care professionals to treat veterans via telemedicine, regardless of the location of the professional or the patient.
11	H.R. 2363, Health Care Innovation and Marketplace Technologies Act of 2013 , introduced 6/13/2013	Rep. Michael Honda (D-CA)	0	Offers loan guarantees for providers, including those accredited in home health care, who acquire health information technologies that support the electronic storage, transmission, and exchange of relevant personal health data.
12	H.R. 2642, Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management Act of 2013 , introduced 7/10/2013	Rep. Frank Lucas (R-OK), Rep. Collin Peterson (D-MN)	0	Extends the Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program, which helps meet the health care needs of rural America, through FY 2018.
13	H.R. 2676, Medicaid Information Technology to Enhance Community Health Act of 2013 , introduced 7/11/2013	Rep. Lois Capps (D-CA)	3	Provides increased payments to encourage the adoption and use of certified electronic health records (EHR) by qualified safety net clinics (QSNs), including rural health clinics.
14	H.R. 2957, Behavioral Health Information Technology Act of 2013 , introduced 8/1/2013	Rep. Tim Murphy (R-PA)	61	Extends health information technology assistance eligibility to behavioral health, mental health, and substance abuse professionals and facilities.
15	H.R. 3077, TELE-MED Act of 2013 introduced 9/10/2013	Rep. Devin Nunes (R-CA), Rep. Frank Pallone (D-NJ)	63	Amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act to permit certain Medicare providers licensed in a state to provide telemedicine services to Medicare beneficiaries in a different state.
16	H.R.3230, Veterans' Access to Care through Choice, Accountability, and Transparency Act of 2014 , Introduced 10/02/2013	Rep. Harold Rogers (R-KY)	2	Directs the Secretary to improve veterans' access to telemedicine through the use of VA mobile vet centers by establishing standardized operations for such centers.
17	H.R.3306, Telehealth Enhancement Act of 2013 introduced 10/22/2013	Rep. Gregg Harper (R-MS)	20	Authorizes an Accountable Care Organization (ACO) to include coverage of telehealth and remote patient monitoring services as supplemental health care benefits to the same extent as a Medicare Advantage plan is permitted to provide such coverage of such services as supplemental health care.
18	H.R. 3507, The 21st Century Care for Military and Veterans Act , introduced 11/15/2013	Rep. Scott Peters (D-CA)	4	Expands the use of telehealth under TRICARE and in the Department of Veterans Affairs.

19	H.R. 3499, Rural Veterans Mental Health Care Improvement Act , introduced 11/25/2013	Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick (D-AZ)	24	Requires the Secretary to report to Congress regarding telemedicine services (the use by a health care provider of telecommunications to assist in the diagnosis or treatment of a patient's medical condition) for veterans, including updates on VA teleconsultation and telemedicine initiatives, training, and partnerships with primary care providers.
	H.R.3750, Telehealth Modernization Act of 2013 , introduced 12/12/2013	Rep. Doris Matsui (D-CA)	3	The bill would clarify the federal definition of telehealth when defining the scope of services that can be delivered via telehealth.
20	H.R. 3577 , introduced 11/21/2013	Rep. Scott Peters (D-CA)	6	Creates the Commission on Health Care Savings through Innovative Wireless Technologies, which will examine the cost savings of telehealth and telemedicine, among other services.
21	H.R. 3890, Better Care, Lower Cost Act , introduced 1/13/2014	Rep. Erik Paulsen (R-MN)	1	Creates Chronic Care Innovation Centers, who will make evaluating new technology, such as telemedicine, one of their goals.
22	H.R. 4561, Rural Veterans Health Care Improvement Act of 2014 , introduced 5/1/2014	Rep. Carol Shea-Porter (D-NH)	0	Requires an update of the Strategic Plan Refresh for Fiscal Years 2012-2014. The update includes goals for the provision of health care in rural areas, including the enhancement of telemedicine services.
23	H.R. 4574, Strengthening Mental Health in Our Communities Act of 2014 , introduced 5/6/2014	Rep. Ron Barber (D-AZ)	60	Issues monetary awards for the use of information technology to expand behavioral health services and facilitate coordination between behavioral health and primary care providers.
24	H. Amdt. 857 to H.R.4800, Agricultural, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act , 2015, offered 6/11/2014	Rep. Cory Gardner (R-CO)	0	Increases telemedicine and distance learning services in rural areas by approximately \$3.4 million.
25	H.R. 4841, Veterans' Access to Care through Choice, Accountability, and Transparency Act of 2014 , introduced 6/11/2014	Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick (D-AZ)	43	Improves veterans' access to telemedicine through the use of VA mobile vet centers by establishing standardized requirements.
26	H.R. 5007, Restoring Accountability in Veterans Access to Health Care Act , introduced 6/26/2014	Rep. Raul Ruiz (D-CA)	11	Implements a clinic management training program to provide in-person and standardized education on health care management at VA facilities. Includes training on how to optimize the use of telemedicine.

27	H.R. 5380, Medicare Telehealth Parity Act of 2014 , introduced 07/31/2014	Rep. Mike Thompson (D-CA)	2	Amends the Social Security Act to phase-in an expansion of telehealth coverage under the Medicare program.
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Senate

28	S. 10 Agriculture Reform, Food, and Jobs Act of 2013 1/22/2013	Senator Harry Reid (D-NV)	19	Extends the Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program, which helps meet the health care needs of rural America, through FY 2018.
29	S. 252, PREEMIE Reauthorization Act , LAW 11/27/13	Senator Lamar Alexander (R-TN), Senator Michael Bennet (D-CO)	12	Requires that preferential treatment be given to grant applications that propose supporting telehealth networks that provide prenatal care for mothers facing high-risk pregnancies.
30	S. 328, Strengthening Rural Access to Emergency Services Act of 2013 , introduced 2/14/2013	Senator John Thune (R-SD), Senator Tom Udall (D-NM)	1	Allows certain critical access hospitals and sole community hospitals to use interactive telecommunications systems to satisfy requirements for having a physician available to stabilize an individual with an emergency medical condition.
31	S. 516, PROSTATE Act , introduced 3/11/2013	Senator Jon Tester (D-MT), Senator Roy Blunt (R-MO)	2	Directs DOD and VA to establish four-year telehealth pilot projects to explore the cost effectiveness and benefits of telehealth for underserved populations and those in rural areas.
32	S. 596, Fostering Independence Through Technology Act of 2013 , introduced 3/18/2013	Senator John Thune (R-SD), Senator Al Franken (D-MN)	7	Establishes pilot programs for the purpose of providing incentives to home health agencies to use remote patient monitoring services that reduce expenditures.
33	S. 945, Access to Quality Diabetes Education Act of 2013 , introduced 5/14/2013	Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH), Senator Susan Collins (R-ME)	11	Allows certified diabetes educators to provide self-management training, including as part of telehealth services, through Medicare Part B.
34	S. 954, Agriculture Reform, Food, and Jobs Act of 2013 , introduced 1/22/2013	Senator Debbie Stabenow (D-MI)	0	Extends the Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program, which helps meet the health care needs of rural America, through FY 2018.
35	S. 1143, Protecting Access to Rural Therapy Services , introduced 6/12/2013	Senator Jerry Moran (R-KS), Senator Jon Tester (D-MT)	18	Permits direct supervision, including by telephone or other means, by non-physician practitioners for certain outpatient services.
36	S. 1155, Rural Veterans Mental Health Care Improvement Act , introduced 6/12/2013	Senator Jon Tester (D-MT)	4	Allows for advance appropriations for certain IT accounts of the VA, to include mental health training programs of the Department and directs the VA to study the use of telemedicine and related reimbursement issues in providing this care.
37	S. 1411, Rural Veterans Health Care Improvement Act of 2013 , introduced 7/31/2013	Senator Al Franken (D-MN), Senator John Boozman (R-AR)	0	Specifies requirements for the next update of the strategic plan for the Office of Rural Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs for improving access to, and the quality of, health care services for veterans in rural areas. These goals include implementing, expanding, and enhancing the use of telemedicine services in rural areas.

38	S. 1439, Care Planning Act of 2013	Senator Mark Warner (D-VA)	1	To provide for advanced illness care coordination services for Medicare beneficiaries, including telemedicine.
39	S. 1787, Medicaid Managed Care Responsibility and Equity Act , introduced 12/10/2013	Senator John Rockefeller (D-WV)	0	Requires quality improvement activities, potentially including an investment in telemedicine.
40	S. 1932, Better Care, Lower Cost Act , introduced 1/13/2014	Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR)	1	Creates Chronic Care Innovation Centers, who will make evaluating new technology, such as telemedicine, one of their goals.
41	S. 1950, Comprehensive Veterans Health and Benefits and Military Retirement Pay Restoration Act of 2014 , introduced 1/16/2014	Senator Bernard Sanders (I-VT)	9	Requires a report on the provision of telemedicine services by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
42	S. 1982, Comprehensive Veterans Health and Benefits and Military Retirement Pay Restoration Act of 2014 , introduced 2/3/2014	Senator Bernard Sanders (I-VT)	29	As part of the rural health strategic plan, it will be updated to reflect the goals and objectives for the implementation, expansion, and enhanced use of telemedicine services by the Veterans Health Administration in rural areas, including through coordination with other appropriate offices of the Department. Requires a report on the provision of telemedicine by the VA.
43	S. 2389, Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015	Senator Mark Pryor (D-AR)	0	Provides grants for long-distance learning and telemedicine, including a \$10,372,000 grant to finance broadband transmission in rural areas eligible for Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program benefits.
44	S. 2413, Restoring Veterans Trust Act of 2014 , introduced 6/2/2014	Senator Bernard Sanders (I-VT)	20	Implements a clinic management program that trains workers on how to optimize the use of telemedicine. Improves veterans' access to telemedicine through the use of VA mobile vet centers by establishing standardization requirements. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs will author a report on the provisions of telemedicine services.
45	S. 2422, Ensuring Veterans Access to Care Act of 2014 , introduced 6/3/2014	Senator Bernard Sanders (I-VT)	32	Improves veterans' access to telemedicine through the use of VA mobile vet centers by establishing standardization requirements.
46	S. 2450, Veterans' Access to Care through Choice, Accountability, and Transparency Act of 2014 , introduced 6/9/2014	Senator Bernard Sanders (I-VT)	45	Directs the Secretary to improve veterans' access to telemedicine through the use of VA mobile vet centers by establishing standardized operations for such centers. See H.R. 3230 .