

One Hundred Seventh Legislature - First Session - 2021

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB400

Chairperson: Senator John Arch

Committee: Health and Human Services

Date of Hearing: February 05, 2021

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 400 would change provisions with respect to telehealth. Under the bill, the definition of telehealth for the purposes of domestic insurance companies and the Nebraska Telehealth Act, is amended to include audio-only services for the delivery of behavioral health services.

LB 400 would amend the Nebraska Telehealth Act to allow for a patient to have the option to give verbal consent, in lieu of written consent, during a telehealth consultation that the patient understands information provided by a practitioner regarding the telehealth consultation. If the patient gives verbal consent during the initial telehealth consultation, a signed statement shall be collected within ten days. The bill would allow the patient to sign the consent statement via electronic signature. LB 400 would also eliminate a requirement that insurers demonstrate compliance with the signed written consent requirement under the Nebraska Telehealth Act.

Finally, LB 400 prohibits insurers from excluding coverage solely because a service is delivered through telehealth, including services originating from any location where the patient is located.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator John Arch