



Support Permanent Access to Telehealth by Qualified Rehabilitation Professionals

Urge your Congressman to Co-Sponsor

The Expanded Telehealth Access Act of 2021 (H.R. 2168)

Introduced by Reps. Mikie Sherrill (D-NJ) and David McKinley, (R-WV)

Home Health Emergency Access to Telehealth (HEAT) Act (S. 1309)

Introduced by Senators Susan Collins (R-ME), Ben Cardin (D-MD), Senators Roger Marshall (R-KS) and Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)

SPEAKING POINTS

- The National Association of Rehabilitation Providers and Agencies (NARA) strongly supports **H.R. 2168** which allows Physical Therapists, Occupational Therapists and Speech Pathologists to continue to provide Telehealth Care to Medicare and federally funded patients beyond the immediate COVID-19 health emergency.
- The National Association of Rehabilitation Providers and Agencies (NARA) strongly supports **S. 1309** which gives CMS the authority to issue a waiver that would allow for telehealth visits to count towards in-person visits as included on the plan of care in the event of a public health emergency (PHE).
- Telerehabilitation has been shown to improve access to care for patients who live in rural areas.
- Telerehabilitation has allowed patients to gain desired outcomes for a variety of health problems, including post-traumatic stress syndrome, chronic pain, stroke, and other neurological and musculoskeletal conditions while still being safe in their homes.
- Increasing access to Rehabilitation therapy services, including through audio and video telecommunications technology can decrease healthcare costs by reducing hospital admissions, and readmissions, emergency department visits, and urgent care visits. Patients have improved compliance to clinical care with better clinical outcomes.
- Prevent delays of essential care and ease the burden on patients travel for frequent and multidiscipline visits.

House Offices

- ASK: Would you co-sponsor H.R. 2168?
- ASK: Would you sponsor or co-sponsor a House version of S. 1309?

Senate Offices

- ASK: Would you sponsor or co-sponsor a Senate version of H.R. 2168?
- ASK: Would you co-sponsor S 1309?

Please support future bills that allow Expanded Telehealth access of Rehabilitation services for Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy.