

SENATE No. 527

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Jennifer L. Flanagan

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to telemedicine.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Jennifer L. Flanagan

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Worcester and Middlesex

SENATE No. 527

By Ms. Flanagan, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 527) of Jennifer L. Flanagan for legislation relative to telemedicine. Financial Services.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act relative to telemedicine.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 176B of the General Laws as appearing in the 2014 Official
2 Edition is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following new section:-

3 Section 25.(a) For the purposes of this section, "telemedicine" as it pertains to the
4 delivery of health care services, shall mean the use of interactive audio, video or other electronic
5 media for the purpose of diagnosis, consultation or treatment. "Telemedicine" shall not include
6 the use of audio-only telephone, facsimile machine or e-mail.

7 (b) A non profit medical service plan may limit coverage of telemedicine services to
8 those health care providers in a telemedicine network approved by the non profit medical service
9 plan.

10 (c) A contract that provides coverage for services under this section may contain a
11 provision for a deductible, copayment or coinsurance requirement for a health care service

12 provided through telemedicine as long as the deductible, copayment or coinsurance does not
13 exceed the deductible, copayment or coinsurance applicable to an in-person consultation,

14 (d) Coverage for health care services under this section shall be consistent with coverage
15 for health care services provided through in-person consultation.