

**Joint Committee on Financial Services
Bill Summary**

Bill No.: S716

Title: An Act relative to telehealth parity for nutrition counseling

Sponsor: Senator Julian Cyr

Bill History: Favorable Report from JCFS, Studied by HCF

Hearing Date: 4/29/2025

Summary: This bill seeks to amend healthcare payment systems in Massachusetts to address medical nutrition therapy and behavioral health services. It defines "medical nutrition therapy" as nutrition-related care provided by licensed dietitians or nutritionists aimed at preventing, managing, and treating diseases or conditions. A key provision mandates that payment rates for in-network providers offering behavioral health and medical nutrition therapy via interactive audio-video technology or audio-only phone communications must be equal to the rates for in-person services.