

AN ACT

relating to the provision of mental health services through a telemedicine medical service or telehealth service.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subtitle A, Title 3, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Chapter 113 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 113. MENTAL HEALTH TELEMEDICINE AND TELEHEALTH SERVICES

Sec. 113.001. DEFINITIONS. The definitions provided by Section 111.001 apply to this chapter.

Sec. 113.002. PATIENT LOCATED OUTSIDE OF STATE. Notwithstanding any other law, a health professional may provide a mental health service that is within the scope of the professional's license, certification, or authorization through the use of a telemedicine medical service or a telehealth service to a patient who is located outside of this state, subject to any applicable regulation of the jurisdiction in which the patient is located.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 4455 was passed by the House on May 7, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 144, Nays 2, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 4455 was passed by the Senate on May 22, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor