

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 87TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 30, 2021

TO: Honorable Stephanie Klick, Chair, House Committee on Public Health

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB2056 by Klick (Relating to the practice of dentistry and the provision of teledentistry dental services.), **As Introduced**

The fiscal implications of the bill cannot be determined at this time due to the inability to determine the impact on service utilization in Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program.

The bill would establish the practice of teledentistry.

The bill would allow the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners (TSBDE), in consultation with the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI), to adopt rules related to the practice of teledentistry.

The bill would require TSBDE and the Texas State Board of Pharmacy (TSBP) to adopt rules to determine a valid teledentistry prescription and publish frequently asked questions relating to a valid prescription on each respective agency website. The bill would also require TSBDE to adopt rules to establish limits on the quantity of a controlled substance that a dentist may prescribe as a teledentistry dental service and rules governing a call coverage agreement between dentists.

The bill would require the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to establish policies that permit reimbursement under Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) for services provided through teledentistry dental services.

The bill would require Medicaid reimbursement for teledentistry dental services to be the same rate as the Medicaid program reimburses for the same in-person dental service.

It is unknown how the addition of coverage of teledentistry dental services to Medicaid and CHIP will impact service utilization.

It is assumed that any costs to TSBDE, TDI, TSBP, the Employees Retirement System, Texas A&M University System Administration, and the University of Texas System Administration to implement the provisions of the bill could be accomplished by utilizing existing resources.

It is assumed that any costs to HHSC associated with rulemaking, and development of any state plan amendments or waivers could be absorbed within existing agency resources.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 327 Employees Retirement System, 454 Department of Insurance, 504 Board of Dental Examiners, 515 Board of Pharmacy, 529 Hlth & Human Svcs Comm, 710 Texas A&M Univ System Admin, 720 UT Sys Admin

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