

By: Sparks

S.B. No. 397

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to rules regarding the provision by a health professional of a telemedicine medical service, teledentistry dental service, or telehealth service.

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

SECTION 1. Section 111.004, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Subsections (c), (d), and (e) to read as follows:

(c) Each agency with regulatory authority over a health professional providing a telemedicine medical service, teledentistry dental service, or telehealth service shall adopt rules necessary to standardize formats for and retention of records related to a patient's consent to:

(1) treatment;

(2) data collection; and

(3) data sharing.

(d) Rules adopted under Subsection (c) must:

(1) as applicable, address the specific consent documentation required for:

(A) telemedicine medical services;

(B) teledentistry dental services; or

(C) telehealth services; and

(2) include provisions, based on the appropriate standard of care, for consent documentation in an audio-only format.

1 (e) Rules adopted under this section must require that a
2 health professional conduct an in-person examination of a patient
3 before an irreversible medical procedure is initiated.

4 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.