Telemedicine: Specialists and Mental Health

**THE PROBLEM: RESTRICTIVE STATE TELEMEDICINE LAWS**

State telemedicine laws are often focused on physicians and do not apply to other kinds of essential providers. This keeps needed specialists from delivering high-quality care across state lines and limits access and options for patients.

- 18 percent of Americans live **more than 10 miles away** from the nearest hospital.
- There’s a **shortage of behavioral health professionals** to help with the opioid epidemic.
- Those in urban areas have greater access to specialists than people in rural communities.

**THE SOLUTION: EXPAND TELEMEDICINE TO PROVIDERS OF ALL KINDS**

Everyone deserves access to high-quality providers, and all types of health providers should be able to care for patients remotely including:

- Domestic abuse counselors
- Behavior analysts
- Nutritionists
- Addiction psychiatrists
- Speech therapists
- Geriatric social workers

Patients will experience **more access to providers**, especially in rural communities.

A patient’s geography will no longer determine their health outcome.
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WHO IT HELPS

- Individuals who live in rural areas
- Hospitals that can’t find full-time specialists
- Veterans
- Individuals struggling with addiction or mental health problems
- Individuals with chronic conditions
- People with disabilities who struggle to make it to traditional clinics

IT’S TRENDING: 36 OUT OF 50 STATES

IT’S POPULAR

Voters Support Telemedicine for Specialists and Mental Health

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>SUPPORT</th>
<th>OPPOSE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Voters</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Republicans</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Democrats</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Independents</td>
<td>55%</td>
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