

HR 5837

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand access to telehealth services relating to substance use disorder treatment, and for other purposes.

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Nov 3, 2021

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security. (Nov 1, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/5837>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Curtis, John R. [R-UT-3]

Party: Republican • **State:** UT • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Peters, Scott H. [D-CA-52]	D · CA		Nov 3, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 4, 2021
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 1, 2022
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 3, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

This bill modifies requirements relating to coverage of certain telehealth services under Medicare. Specifically, the bill permanently allows telehealth services for substance-use disorders and mental health disorders to be provided via audio-only technology and without an initial in-person evaluation.

Schedule III or IV controlled substances may also be prescribed online if a practitioner has conducted a telehealth evaluation with video; certain opioid agonists may be prescribed via audio-only technology if the beneficiary initially lacks access to video technology but receives a follow-up evaluation via video within 10 days.

The Department of Health and Human Services must establish an interagency task force to study the utilization and effect of opioid agonist prescriptions that are issued via telehealth.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 1, 2022:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
- **Nov 4, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Nov 3, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Nov 3, 2021:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
- **Nov 3, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

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