

S 660

Tele-Mental Health Improvement Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Mar 10, 2021

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Mar 10, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/660>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]

Party: Democratic • **State:** MN • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (6 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|-------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK] | R · AK | | Mar 10, 2021 |
| Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH] | D · NH | | Apr 13, 2021 |
| Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI] | D · MI | | Apr 13, 2021 |
| Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT] | D · MT | | May 12, 2021 |
| Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME] | R · ME | | May 26, 2021 |
| Sen. Wicker, Roger F. [R-MS] | R · MS | | Nov 2, 2021 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|--|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee | Senate | Referred To | Mar 10, 2021 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-------------|--------------|--|
| 117 HR 2264 | Related bill | Mar 29, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. |

Tele-Mental Health Improvement Act

This bill requires private health insurance plans that cover in-person mental health or substance use disorder services to cover such services on equal terms via telehealth (i.e., information technology used to aid treatment and diagnosis at a physical distance) during and shortly after the COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) public health emergency. Specifically, this bill requires plans to, among other things, cover these services at the same rate as in-person services, exclude charges for facility fees, and provide information about how to access these services. Additionally, providers of these services may not charge facility fees to plan enrollees.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 10, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 10, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.