

HR 8489

Greater Access to Telehealth Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Jul 26, 2022

Current Status: Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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. (Jul 26, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/8489>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Schweikert, David [R-AZ-6]

Party: Republican • **State:** AZ • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Carter, Earl L. "Buddy" [R-GA-1]	R · GA		Jul 26, 2022
Rep. Miller-Meeks, Mariannette [R-IA-2]	R · IA		Jul 26, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 26, 2022
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 26, 2022

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 4040	Related bill	Jul 28, 2022: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Greater Access to Telehealth Act

This bill modifies the extension of certain Medicare telehealth flexibilities after the end of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Specifically, the bill provides that certain flexibilities continue to apply until December 31, 2026, if the emergency period ends before that date. The bill allows

- beneficiaries to continue to receive telehealth services at any site, regardless of type or location (e.g., the beneficiary's home);
- occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech-language pathologists, and audiologists to continue to furnish telehealth services;
- federally qualified health centers and rural health clinics to continue to serve as the distant site (i.e., the location of the health care practitioner);
- evaluation and management and behavioral health services to continue to be provided via audio-only technology; and
- hospice physicians and nurse practitioners to continue to complete certain requirements relating to patient recertifications via telehealth.

The bill also delays implementation of certain in-person evaluation requirements for mental health telehealth services until January 1, 2027, or the first day after the end of the emergency period, whichever is later.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 26, 2022:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 26, 2022:** Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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.