

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to telehealth practice standards;
 3 amending s. 456.47, F.S.; revising the definition of
 4 the term "telehealth"; deleting a prohibition on
 5 prescribing controlled substances through telehealth;
 6 providing an effective date.

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 8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 10 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) and paragraph
 11 (c) of subsection (2) of section 456.47, Florida Statutes, are
 12 amended to read:

13 456.47 Use of telehealth to provide services.—

14 (1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

15 (a) "Telehealth" means the use of synchronous or
 16 asynchronous telecommunications technology by a telehealth
 17 provider to provide health care services, including, but not
 18 limited to, assessment, diagnosis, consultation, treatment, and
 19 monitoring of a patient; transfer of medical data; patient and
 20 professional health-related education; public health services;
 21 and health administration. The term does not include ~~audio-only~~
 22 ~~telephone calls~~, e-mail messages, or facsimile transmissions.

23 (2) PRACTICE STANDARDS.—

24 ~~(c) A telehealth provider may not use telehealth to~~
 25 ~~prescribe a controlled substance unless the controlled substance~~

26 | ~~is prescribed for the following:~~

27 | 1. ~~The treatment of a psychiatric disorder;~~

28 | 2. ~~Inpatient treatment at a hospital licensed under~~
 29 | ~~chapter 395;~~

30 | 3. ~~The treatment of a patient receiving hospice services~~
 31 | ~~as defined in s. 400.601; or~~

32 | 4. ~~The treatment of a resident of a nursing home facility~~
 33 | ~~as defined in s. 400.021.~~

34 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.