DIGEST

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HB 624 Original

2022 Regular Session

Pressly

Abstract: Incorporates behavioral health services providers into the set of healthcare providers recognized in the La. Telehealth Access Act.

<u>Present law</u> known as the La. Telehealth Access Act (R.S. 40:1223.1 et seq.) defines "healthcare provider", for purposes of <u>present law</u> relative to telehealth services, as a person, partnership, limited liability partnership, limited liability company, corporation, facility, or institution licensed or certified by this state to provide healthcare or professional services as any of the following:

- (1) Physician assistant.
- (2) Hospital.
- (3) Nursing home.
- (4) Dentist.
- (5) Registered nurse.
- (6) Advanced practice registered nurse.
- (7) Licensed dietitian or nutritionist.
- (8) Licensed practical nurse.
- (9) Certified nurse assistant.
- (10) Offshore health service provider.
- (11) Ambulance service.
- (12) Licensed midwife.
- (13) Pharmacist.
- (14) Speech-language pathologist.

(15)Audiologist. (16)Optometrist. Podiatrist. (17)(18)Chiropractor. (19)Physical therapist. (20)Occupational therapist. Certified or licensed athletic trainer. (21) (22)Psychologist. (23)Medical psychologist. (24)Social worker. (25)Licensed professional counselor. (26)Licensed perfusionist. Licensed respiratory therapist. (27)Licensed radiologic technologist. (28)Licensed hearing aid dealer. (29)(30)Licensed clinical laboratory scientist.

<u>Proposed law</u> adds behavioral health services providers licensed pursuant to <u>present law</u> to the list of personnel classified as healthcare providers for purposes of the La. Telehealth Access Act.

<u>Present law</u>, R.S. 37:1261 et seq., provides that telemedicine is a form of telehealth that may be practiced exclusively by licensed physicians. <u>Proposed law</u> retains present law.

(Amends R.S. 40:1223.3(3))