

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 137

BY REPRESENTATIVE CARLSON

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 28:53(B)(1), relative to admission for emergency certificates via  
3 telehealth; to authorize psychologists and medical psychologists to conduct  
4 telehealth examinations under certain circumstances; and to provide for related  
5 matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 28:53(B)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

8 \* \* \*

9 §53. Admission by emergency certificate; extension; payment for services rendered

10 \* \* \*

11 B.(1) Any physician licensed or permitted by the Louisiana State Board of  
12 Medical Examiners, physician assistant when acting in accordance with ~~their~~ his  
13 respective clinical practice guidelines, psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner,  
14 other nurse practitioner who acts in accordance with a collaborative practice  
15 agreement and receives verbal approval for executing the certificate from his  
16 collaborating physician, or psychologist may execute an emergency certificate only  
17 after an actual examination of a person alleged to have a mental illness or be  
18 suffering from a substance-related or addictive disorder who is determined to be in  
19 need of immediate care and treatment in a treatment facility because the examining  
20 physician, physician assistant when acting in accordance with ~~their~~ his respective  
21 clinical practice guidelines, psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner, other nurse  
22 practitioner who acts in accordance with a collaborative practice agreement and

1 receives verbal approval for executing the certificate from his collaborating  
2 physician, or psychologist determines the person to be dangerous to self or others or  
3 to be gravely disabled. The actual examination of the person by a psychiatrist,  
4 psychologist, medical psychologist, or psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner  
5 may be conducted by telehealth utilizing video conferencing technology, provided  
6 that a licensed healthcare professional who can adequately and accurately assist with  
7 obtaining any necessary information including but not limited to the information  
8 listed in Paragraph (4) of this Subsection shall be in the examination room with the  
9 patient at the time of the video conference. A patient examined in such a manner  
10 shall be medically cleared prior to admission to a mental health treatment facility.  
11 Failure to conduct an examination prior to the execution of the certificate will be  
12 evidence of gross negligence.

13 \* \* \*

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

---

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_