

Bill Number	Name	Date Introduced	Summary
S.3539	Telehealth Expansion Act	3/19/2020	On March 19, Senator Steve Daines (R- MO) introduced the Telehealth Expansion Act. This bill exempts high deductible health plans from the requirement of a deductible for telehealth and other remote care services for plan years beginning after 2021.
S.4049	National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021	6/23/2020	On June 23, Senator James Inhofe (R-OK) introduced this bill. Section 704 describes efforts to "leverage telemedicine to ensure safe access to mental health services" for member of the armed forces. This is only a small section of a massive bill, yet it does address telehealth.
S.4039	TELEHEALTH HSA Act of 2020	6/23/2020	Introduced by Senator Kelly Loeffler, this bill seeks to "permanently extend a provision of the Coronavirus Aid, Recovery and Economic Stability (CARES) Act that temporarily allows health savings account eligible high-deductible health plans to offer first-dollar coverage of telehealth services." This bill seeks to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to enact its changes.
S.3999	Improving Telehealth for Underserved Communities Act	6/18/2020	Senator Angus King (I-ME) introduced S.3999 entitled "The Improving Telehealth for Underserved Communities Act". According to a <a href="#">press release</a> , the bill seeks to "protect patients receiving care through telehealth services by shielding certain rural health clinics (RHCs) and Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) in underserved communities from impending Medicare payments that could hinder their ability to care and treat patients in the middle of a pandemic." In essence, it seeks to change the fact that clinics would owe money back to Medicare for each telehealth service provided. Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS) partnered with Senator King on this legislation; her bill was introduced as S.3998
S.3998	Improving Telehealth for Underserved Communities Act of 2020	6/18/2020	On June 18, Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS) introduced S.3998 entitled "The Improving Telehealth for Underserved Communities Act". According to a <a href="#">press release</a> by Senator Hyde-Smith, "This legislation will help ensure that telehealth is available to seniors in underserved communities as we battle our way through the coronavirus threat." The bill intends to remove the requirement for rural health clinics (RHCs) and Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) to owe money back to Medicare for each telehealth service, a problem rising from an oversight in the CARES Act. Senator Angus King (I-ME) partnered with Senator Hyde-Smith on this legislation; his bill was introduced as S.3999
S.3988	Enhancing Preparedness Through Telehealth Act	6/17/2020	On June 17, Senators Bill Cassidy, M.D. (R-LA), Tina Smith (D-MN), Dan Sullivan (R-AK) and Doug Jones (D-AL) introduced S.3988 entitled the "Enhancing Preparedness Through Telehealth Act". According to a <a href="#">press release</a> by Senator Cassidy, the legislation will "direct the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to inventory telehealth programs across the country to learn how telehealth can be used more effectively in future health emergencies." This is to take the form of a recurring report to be performed every five years.
S.3838	Health Care Broadband Expansion During COVID-19 Act	5/21/2020	On May 21, Senators Brian Schatz (D-Hawai'i), Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska), John Boozman (R-Ark.), Angus King (I-Maine), Gary Peters (D-Mich.), Dan Sullivan (R-Alaska), Kevin Cramer (R-N.D.), and Ed Markey (D-Mass.) introduced S.3838 entitled "The Health Care Broadband Expansion During COVID-19 Act." According to a <a href="#">press release</a> by Senator Cassidy, the bill "directs \$2 billion to help health care providers increase their broadband capacity and expand telehealth services during the current public health crisis." The bill will notably allocate \$2 billion in additional support for the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program for the coronavirus response, as well as several other steps to streamline the telehealth process.
S.3825	Coronavirus Mental Health and Addiction Assistance Act of 2020	5/21/2020	On May 21, Senators Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) and Todd Young (R-IN) introduced S.3825 entitled "Coronavirus Mental Health and Addiction Assistance Act of 2020". According to a <a href="#">press release</a> by Senator Klobuchar, the act will "direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to establish a Coronavirus Mental Health and Addiction Assistance Network." The act notably awards an emergency appropriation of \$100 million to initiate or expand programs that offer mental health services that are adapted to the Coronavirus pandemic; telehealth services are specifically mentioned as being eligible for this appropriation.
S.3792	Tele-Mental Health Improvement Act	5/21/2020	On May 21, Senators Tina Smith (D-MN) and Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) introduced S.3792 entitled "The Tele-Mental Health Improvement Act". According to a <a href="#">press release</a> from the office of Senator Murkowski, the Act would improve access to tele-mental health services during the length of the pandemic by removing barriers between employees and said services, through steps such as "Prohibiting health plans from imposing additional barriers to access telehealth".
S.3643	VA Mission Telehealth Clarification Act	5/7/2020	On May 7, Senator Kelly Loeffler (R-GA) introduced S.3643 entitled, "VA Mission Telehealth Clarification Act". According to the <a href="#">text of the bill</a> , it is intended "To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize certain postgraduate health care employees and health professions trainees of the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide treatment via telemedicine, and for other purposes.
S.3548	CARES Act	3/19/2020	On March 19, Senator Mitch McConnell introduced S.3548 entitled "CARES Act". According to the <a href="#">bill summary</a> authored by the Congressional Research Institute, the CARES Act is intended to "address economic impacts of, and otherwise respond to, the COVID-19 (coronavirus) outbreak." The bill identifies tele-health as a means of preventing Coronavirus spread. Provisions also include additional funding allocations made towards training of tele-health professionals and ensuring tele-health cybersecurity.
S.3539	Telehealth Expansion Act	3/19/2020	On March 19, Senator Steve Daines (R-MT) introduced S.3539 entitled "Telehealth Expansion Act". According to the <a href="#">text of the bill</a> , the bill's intention is to "To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt telehealth services from certain high deduct