

HB 2056 has been successfully signed into law. What does Teledentistry legislation passing mean for me?

As of August 20, 2022

- * The State Board of Dental Examiners, in consultation with the Commissioner of Insurance, as appropriate, have adopted rules necessary for the following:
 - Patients using teledentistry dental services receive appropriate quality of care.
 - Prevent abuse and fraud in the use of teledentistry dental services, including rules relating to the filing of claims and records required to be maintained in connection with teledentistry dental services.
 - Ensure adequate supervision of health professionals who are not dentists and who provide teledentistry dental services under the delegation and supervision of dentist.
 - Authorized a dentist to simultaneously delegate to and supervise through a teledentistry dental service not more than five health professionals who are not dentists.

- * A dentist who delegates a teledentistry dental service shall ensure the informed consent of the patient includes disclosure to the patient the dentist has delegated the service.

- * A dental hygienist who practices dental hygiene as a teledentistry dental service, as defined by Section 111.001, is practicing in an alternate setting in compliance with Subsection (a)(2). (Including nursing home, the patient's home, a school, a hospital, a state institution, a public health clinic, or another institution, under the supervision of a supervising dentist.)

- * The commission shall require reimbursement for a teledentistry dental service at the same rate as the Medicaid program reimburses for the same in-person dental service. A request for reimbursement may not be denied solely because an in-person dental service between a dentist and a patient did not occur. The commission may not limit a dentist's choice of platform for providing a teledentistry dental service by requiring that the dentist use a particular platform to receive reimbursement for the service.

- * The State Dental Board rules (§108.16) regarding teledentistry were approved by the Governor's Office and became effective June 2, 2022. [Texas Administrative Code \(state.tx.us\)](https://www.texas.gov/legislation/texas-administrative-code)

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