

**TELEMEDICINE COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes**  
**December 22, 2020**

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. by Chair Barby Simmons, DO with the following members present:

Debi Dalton, MD  
Alex Gross, MD  
Richard Weil, MD

**Board Staff Present:**

LaSharn Hughes, Executive Director  
Jonathan McGehee, Director of Investigations

**Attorney General Staff Present**

Max Changus, Assistant Attorney General

**Minutes**

Motion Dr. Weil, seconded Dr. Gross ad motion carried to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2020 meeting as amended.

**Legislative Review**

The Committee reviewed the following proposed legislation to the Georgia Telehealth Act, presented to the Board by the Georgia Psychiatric Association.

This legislation makes several changes to the Georgia Telehealth Act. The bill addresses issues related to insurance coverage of care delivered through telehealth, including the following:

- Allows patient to receive care at home
- Allows practitioners to provide care from home
- Allows for audio-only care under certain circumstances
- Prohibits utilization review on telehealth that is different than for in-person care
- Prohibits any requirement that patient be seen in person before telehealth is allowed
- Prohibits separate deductibles for telehealth
- Prohibits requiring that providers use a specific telehealth platform or vendor

Motion Dr. Weil, seconded Dr Gross to suggest the following language to the Bill:

Documentation should be equal to or exceed a live visit and should be available for follow up providers.

Dr. Simmons will share the changes with Dr. Collins and Dr. Norman for comments. After their review, Dr. Simmons will direct the staff to contact Mr. Lindsey with the Georgia Psychiatric Association with the Board's recommended changes.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m.