

By Senator Diaz

36-00563-21

2021660__

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to telehealth; amending s. 456.47,
 3 F.S.; revising the definition of the term
 4 "telehealth"; deleting a prohibition on prescribing
 5 controlled substances through telehealth; providing an
 6 effective date.

8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

9
 10 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) and paragraph
 11 (c) of subsection (2) of section 456.47, Florida Statutes, are
 12 amended to read:

13 456.47 Use of telehealth to provide services.—

14 (1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

15 (a) "Telehealth" means the use of synchronous or
 16 asynchronous telecommunications technology by a telehealth
 17 provider to provide health care services, including, but not
 18 limited to, assessment, diagnosis, consultation, treatment, and
 19 monitoring of a patient; transfer of medical data; patient and
 20 professional health-related education; public health services;
 21 and health administration. The term does not include ~~audio-only~~
 22 ~~telephone calls~~, e-mail messages, or facsimile transmissions.

23 (2) PRACTICE STANDARDS.—

24 ~~(c) A telehealth provider may not use telehealth to~~
 25 ~~prescribe a controlled substance unless the controlled substance~~
 26 ~~is prescribed for the following:~~

- 27 ~~1. The treatment of a psychiatric disorder;~~
 28 ~~2. Inpatient treatment at a hospital licensed under chapter~~
 29 ~~395;~~

36-00563-21

2021660__

30 ~~3. The treatment of a patient receiving hospice services as~~
31 ~~defined in s. 400.601; or~~

32 ~~4. The treatment of a resident of a nursing home facility~~
33 ~~as defined in s. 400.021.~~

34 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.