



Sen. Cristina Castro

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10400SB2153sam001

LRB104 09779 AAS 24959 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 2153

2 AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_. Amend Senate Bill 2153 by replacing  
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Illinois Physical Therapy Act is amended  
5 by changing Section 1.3 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 90/1.3)

7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2026)

8 Sec. 1.3. Telehealth services.

9 (a) Physical therapy through telehealth services may be  
10 used to address access issues to care, enhance care delivery,  
11 or increase the physical therapist's ability to assess and  
12 direct the patient's performance in the patient's own  
13 environment.

14 (b) A physical therapist or physical therapist assistant  
15 working under the general supervision of a physical therapist  
16 may provide physical therapy through telehealth services

1 pursuant to the terms and use defined in the Telehealth Act and  
2 the Illinois Insurance Code subject to the following  
3 conditions:

4 (1) Physical therapists may use telehealth to perform  
5 an initial physical therapy evaluation if one of the  
6 following criteria is met:

7 (i) the patient has a referral or diagnosis;

8 (ii) the patient is an established patient; or

9 (iii) the physical therapist has the capacity to  
10 perform or facilitate a referral for an in-person,  
11 hands-on examination or re-examination by a physical  
12 therapist at any time throughout the course of the  
13 patient's care. Initial physical therapy evaluations  
14 ~~without a referral or established diagnosis may only~~  
15 ~~be performed by a licensed physical therapist and~~  
16 ~~cannot be performed via telehealth unless necessary to~~  
17 ~~address a documented hardship, including, but not~~  
18 ~~limited to, geographical, physical, or weather related~~  
19 ~~conditions.~~

20 (2) A physical therapist may require a patient to  
21 undergo an in-person visit instead of providing telehealth  
22 services. The use of telehealth as a primary means of  
23 delivering physical therapy must be an exception and  
24 documentation must support the clinical justification.

25 (3) A patient receiving physical therapy must be able  
26 to request and receive in-person care at any point during

1 their treatment.

2 (4) A physical therapist providing telehealth must  
3 have the capacity to provide or be able to facilitate a  
4 referral to in-person care within the State of Illinois.

5 (5) A physical therapist or a physical therapist  
6 assistant may engage in the practice of telehealth  
7 services in this State to the extent of his or her scope of  
8 practice as established in this Act and consistent with  
9 the standards of care for in-person services. This Section  
10 shall not be construed to authorize the delivery of  
11 physical therapy services in a setting or in a manner not  
12 otherwise authorized by law.

13 (6) A physical therapist treating a patient located in  
14 this State through telehealth services must be licensed or  
15 authorized to practice physical therapy in this State.

16 (7) The Department may, by rule, exempt physical  
17 therapists and physical therapist assistants providing  
18 physical therapy services as part of the Illinois Early  
19 Intervention Program, an individualized education program,  
20 or a federal Section 504 plan through a school system from  
21 this Section to address service delays.

22 (Source: P.A. 103-849, eff. 1-1-25.)".