

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

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

6 (225 ILCS 90/1.3 new)

7 Sec. 1.3. Telehealth services.

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

13 (b) A physical therapist or physical therapist assistant  
14 working under the general supervision of a physical therapist  
15 may provide physical therapy through telehealth services  
16 pursuant to the terms and use defined in the Telehealth Act and  
17 the Illinois Insurance Code subject to the following  
18 conditions:

19 (1) Initial physical therapy evaluations without a  
20 referral or established diagnosis may only be performed by  
21 a licensed physical therapist and cannot be performed via  
22 telehealth unless necessary to address a documented  
23 hardship, including, but not limited to, geographical,

1       physical, or weather-related conditions.

2           (2) The use of telehealth as a primary means of  
3       delivering physical therapy must be an exception and  
4       documentation must support the clinical justification.

5           (3) A patient receiving physical therapy must be able  
6       to request and receive in-person care at any point during  
7       their treatment.

8           (4) A physical therapist providing telehealth must  
9       have the capacity to provide in-person care within the  
10       State of Illinois.