

**OHIO ACADEMY**  
of Nutrition and Dietetics

an affiliate of the  
**eat right.** Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics



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To: Chairman Thomas Brinkman, House Insurance Committee

From: Kay Mavko, MS, RD, LD, State Regulatory Specialist  
Ohio Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

Chairman Brinkman, Vice Chairman Lampton, Ranking Member Miranda and members of the House Insurance Committee, I would like to thank you today on behalf of the Ohio Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (OAND) for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 122.

Dietitians in Ohio are pleased to be included in the bill as one of the team of health professionals who can provide telehealth services. And frankly, we feel that it is important that our profession stays included as qualified providers of telehealth services.

Diet is KEY to the prevention and treatment of expensive, debilitating chronic diseases like obesity, heart disease, kidney disease, etc. These are the types of disease with nutritional components that can affect anyone – and that disproportionately affect dis-enfranchised communities. It is often hard to reach people with these health disparities in pockets of urban and Appalachian Ohio.

The ability for dietitians to provide Medical Nutrition Therapy and support consistent provider/patient engagement using multiple modes of technology expands the reach of nutrition professionals to those who cannot reliably access traditional in-person services.

We believe that the enhanced access afforded by HB 122 will help dietitians improve nutrition related health outcomes, reduce health care costs, and improve the quality of life of Ohio citizens.

OAND looks forward to working with the legislature in support of HB 122 as currently proposed.