

hims & hers

March 2, 2021

Chair Thomas E. Brinkman, Jr.
House Insurance Committee
Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street
11th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: H.B. 122, Regards the provision of telehealth services – Hims & Hers Support

Chair Brinkman, Vice Chair Lampton, Ranking Member Miranda and Members of the Committee:

We appreciate the opportunity to lend support for H.B. 122, *Regards the provision of telehealth services*, and applaud the Committee for increasing healthcare access to Ohioans across the state during the on-going COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

Hims & Hers is a direct-to-consumer digital health platform helping consumers obtain safe, high-quality healthcare, without judgement or bias. We connect patients to licensed healthcare providers for medical consultations and treatment in Ohio and across all 50 states. Since our launch in 2017, we've powered more than two million digital healthcare visits across a variety of conditions. We are committed to working diligently with regulators and policymakers to increase access to care for as many individuals as possible, especially those living in rural or underserved areas.

In addition to the benefits of telemedicine that pre-existed COVID-19, the pandemic has demonstrated the unique benefits of telemedicine to provide quality care while keeping patients and healthcare providers safe. In response to the pandemic, Hims & Hers has incorporated access to additional telemedicine offerings, including primary care services, mental health support groups, and access to at-home COVID-19 testing kits authorized by FDA under an Emergency Use Authorization, in partnership with Rutgers University.

We recently opened a pharmacy and over-the-counter fulfillment center in New Albany, just northeast of Columbus. When at full capacity, we will employ 500 Ohioans at the 382,000sq/ft facility in a range of jobs from pharmacists to technicians and operations managers to packers. Opening a new facility during a global pandemic was not easy, but made successful through partnerships with Governor DeWine, Lieutenant Governor Husted, the State Legislature, Jobs Ohio, One Columbus, and many others.

Since our launch in Ohio in 2017, we have connected patients with providers for medical appointments. Unfortunately, our services have been limited to synchronous or “real-time” telemedicine visits under the current statute. We are glad to see that H.B. 122 puts Ohio alongside a majority of states where providers are empowered to utilize other technologies and modalities to meet the needs of patients and providers. It

is our hope that this improved regulatory environment would help us enable access to more care in the state.

We applaud the bill sponsors' effort crafting this legislation and appreciate the opportunity to engage with Members throughout the process. We share your goal of ensuring every Ohioan can access high-quality, safe healthcare, and are committed to continuing our relationship with Members and staff to develop policies that can improve telemedicine today and for future generations.

Sincerely,

Patrick Carroll, M.D.
Chief Medical Officer
Hims & Hers