



October 19, 2021

The Honorable Stephen
A. Huffman
Chair, Ohio Senate
Health Committee
Ohio State Senate
1 Capitol Square, Ground
Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

The Honorable Niraj
Antani
Vice Chair, Ohio Senate
Health Committee
Ohio State Senate
1 Capitol Square, Ground
Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

The Honorable Nickie J.
Antonio
Ranking Member, Ohio
Senate Health
Committee
Ohio State Senate
1 Capitol Square, 2nd
Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: House Bill 122 – A bill related to telehealth

Dear Chair Huffman and members of the Senate Health Committee:

TechNet is the national, bipartisan network of technology CEOs and senior executives that promotes the growth of the innovation economy by advocating a targeted policy agenda at the federal and 50-state level. Our diverse membership includes dynamic American businesses ranging from startups to the most iconic companies on the planet and represents over four million employees and countless customers in the fields of information technology, e-commerce, the sharing and gig economies, advanced energy, cybersecurity, telehealth, venture capital, and finance.

We want to thank you for addressing telehealth in Ohio. As you may be aware, TechNet has previously communicated our support for forward-looking telehealth legislation in Ohio and strongly supports legislation that would move Ohio forward. Unfortunately, House Bill 122 does not do so uniformly and leaves a few health professions, particularly dentistry, out of this growing sector of health care. TechNet respectfully requests that dentistry and oral health providers be included in the covered professions. Without this change, prior in-person visits would be required before a patient could use technology to access care. This legislation rightly acknowledges that such requirements are outdated and stand as barriers to care without any clinical benefit.

There is no rational public policy reason to exclude dentistry from House Bill 122. TechNet believes this bill should enable providers to use the appropriate technologies to deploy much-needed health care services and should not be used to prevent licensed and regulated health care professionals from utilizing those technologies. Our organization supports the permissive and uniform treatment of technology in health care. Moreover, our member companies strongly support increasing access to quality health care, including oral care, for their employees.

We appreciate the opportunity for TechNet to be a part of these discussions. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions at 630-400-3439 or at tdiers@technet.org. Thank you again for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tyler Diers', is centered within a light gray rectangular box.

Tyler Diers

Executive Director, Midwest

TechNet