



ERIC The ERISA Industry Committee

The Only National Association Advocating Solely for the Employee Benefit and Compensation Interests of America's Largest Employers

1400 L Street, NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC 20005 • (202) 789-1400 • www.eric.org

Annette Guarisco Fildes, President & CEO

June 8, 2016

Telemedicine Advisory Committee
Arkansas State Medical Board
1401 West Capitol Avenue, Suite 340
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-2936

ATTN: Peggy Cryer, Executive Secretary
RE: Draft Telemedicine Proposal

Sent via electronic mail to support@armedicalboard.org

Dear Ms. Cryer,

Thank you for once again providing the opportunity for telehealth stakeholders to comment on your telemedicine proposal. As the only national trade association advocating solely for the benefit and compensation interests of America's largest employers, The ERISA Industry Committee (ERIC) speaks for the payer community on this issue.

As we have stated in our prior letters (see attached) to the Arkansas State Medical Board (ASMB), we support uniform, barrier-free access to telehealth. Our policy positions are designed to maintain a high standard of care without introducing unnecessary barriers to care.

ERIC is pleased that the revisions in the proposal reflect the ASMB's willingness to consider the interests of various stakeholders and to modify the proposal as needed. Although we encourage the ASMB to consider technology neutral requirements, we support the ASMB's revised position that will allow the patient-provider relationship to be established using telemedicine.

ERIC applauds the ASMB for thoughtfully developing telehealth rules, so that patients in Arkansas may benefit from this modern mode of health care delivery. We welcome further conversations on this.

Sincerely,

Annette Guarisco Fildes
President & CEO