



## **ILHIC Member Call Notes**

**May 28, 2021**

### **1. Key Bill Items**

- HB 3308 and HB 3498- Telehealth- IHA, ILHIC, and AHIP came to an agreement the weekend before the last week of session. The agreement included: 1. Permanent payment parity for behavioral health; 2. Physical health parity with a 5-year sunset; 3. Payment parity provisions are explicit that if a service cannot be billed as an in-person service, then it is not subject to parity. Provisions also allow for negotiation of alternative reimbursement rates; 4. Originating site reimbursement is permissive and may be considered if the site is a facility; 5. IDPH and DOI will commission a study for telehealth utilization, impact on access, outcomes, and health equity, as well as cost to be reported out in 2026; 6. Medicaid is not included in the language. The bill number seemed to be the last issue in contention. IHA went to Senate Leadership on multiple occasions to request that the agreed language be amended to 3498. There has been a large advertising campaign on HB 3498 as the bill for telehealth. Leader Harris wanted the telehealth language to be amended on 3308. The bill language was amended in 3308. When the bill goes back to the House, Representative Jones will be the House Sponsor of the bill. Representative Jones was asked on multiple occasions to turn over sponsorship to Representative Conroy.

### **2. Committee Action Bills**

- **Health Care Availability & Access**
  - SB 967 Pregnancy/ Postpartum- Mandates coverage for pregnancy and newborn care in accordance with specified federal provisions regarding essential health benefits. SB 967 contains requirements for pregnancy and postpartum coverage benefits. ILHIC was neutral on the bill and it passed on leave.
- **House Insurance**
  - SB 2158 Port-Wine Stains- Mandates coverage for maximum feasible treatment for nevus flammeus. This bill was postponed in Senate Insurance and was not heard this week. There is an additional amendment that prohibits coverage for cosmetic purposes as well as tightens up the mandate by listing situations creating functional impairment, which would trigger the coverage. ILHIC was neutral on the amendment. SB 2158 passed unanimously.

- **Senate Insurance**

- HB 3308 and HB 3498- Telehealth- HB 3308 was used as the vehicle for Telehealth and passed on the agreed bill list. ILHIC slipped in support of the amended language.
- HB 135- Patient Services Coverage Mandate- HB 135 mandates coverage for patient care services when pharmacists prescribe and dispense hormonal birth control. ILHIC was neutral on the bill and passed on the agreed bill list.
- HB 2554- Telehealth Acupuncturists- HB 2554 adds acupuncturists to the Telehealth Act. This bill was only held as a subject matter hearing. Members asked questions regarding licensing as well as billing for insurance. Senator Jones was surprised that the bill was only a subject matter and urged that the bill would have a vote before May 31<sup>st</sup>. ILHIC did not have a position on the bill. However, we are monitoring its action.

**3. Other Discussion Items**

- Session Summary- ILHIC will circulate a post session summary along with a final bill chart next week. We will try to circulate this information on Tuesday or Wednesday of next week.
- SB 1876- Group Life Insurance- Requires policies of group life insurance to contain, if replacing another policy of group life insurance in force, a provision preventing loss of coverage, subject to premium payments, for those active employees who are not actively at work on the effective date of the new policy as long as certain conditions are met. The provisions were attempting to get uniformity. We are working with the Department to clarify provisions from an implementation standpoint.
- Uniform Electronic Prior Authorization Form for Prescription Drugs- The form language was posted to JCAR as Second Notice. Timing for implementation is extremely tight (July 1, 2021). ILHIC can encourage DOI for any guidance for accommodating members to work with tight implementation concerns.

**4. Upcoming Deadlines**

- May 31- Adjournment