

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Physical Therapy Act is amended by
5 adding Section 1.3 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 90/1.3 new)

7 Sec. 1.3. Telehealth services.

8 (a) Physical therapy through telehealth services may be
9 used to address access issues to care, enhance care delivery,
10 or increase the physical therapist's ability to assess and
11 direct the patient's performance in the patient's own
12 environment.

13 (b) A physical therapist or physical therapist assistant
14 working under the general supervision of a physical therapist
15 may provide physical therapy through telehealth services
16 pursuant to the terms and use defined in the Telehealth Act and
17 the Illinois Insurance Code subject to the following
18 conditions:

19 (1) Initial physical therapy evaluations without a
20 referral or established diagnosis may only be performed by
21 a licensed physical therapist and cannot be performed via
22 telehealth unless necessary to address a documented
23 hardship, including, but not limited to, geographical,

1 physical, or weather-related conditions.

2 (2) The use of telehealth as a primary means of
3 delivering physical therapy must be an exception and
4 documentation must support the clinical justification.

5 (3) A patient receiving physical therapy must be able
6 to request and receive in-person care at any point during
7 their treatment.

8 (4) A physical therapist providing telehealth must
9 have the capacity to provide in-person care within the
10 State of Illinois.