

FEB 10 1996  
COMMERCE AND REGULATION

HOUSE FILE 2214  
BY NELSON

(COMPANION TO LSB 3238SS  
BY JUDGE)

Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the use of the Iowa communications network by  
2 certain health care professionals.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. Section 8D.2, Code 1997, is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsections:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 2A. "Licensed health care professional"  
4 means a physician and surgeon, podiatric physician, osteopath,  
5 osteopathic physician and surgeon, physician assistant,  
6 advanced registered nurse practitioner, registered nurse,  
7 dentist, or pharmacist required to be licensed under chapter  
8 147.

9 NEW SUBSECTION. 7. "Telehealth" means the use of a  
10 telecommunications system for diagnostic, clinical,  
11 consultative, data, or educational services or related health  
12 care activities by licensed health care professionals, or  
13 staff who function under the direction of, or in collaboration  
14 with, a physician, or staff of a hospital, clinic, home care  
15 or public health agency, or health care facility.

16 Sec. 2. Section 8D.6, subsection 1, Code 1997, is amended  
17 to read as follows:

18 1. The commission shall establish an advisory group to  
19 examine the use of the network for ~~telemedicine~~ telehealth  
20 applications. The advisory group shall consist of  
21 representatives of hospitals and other health care facilities  
22 as determined by the commission, and representatives of  
23 licensed health care professionals.

24 Sec. 3. Section 8D.13, subsection 16, Code Supplement  
25 1997, is amended to read as follows:

26 16. Access shall be offered to hospitals licensed pursuant  
27 to chapter 135B and physician clinics for diagnostic,  
28 clinical, consultative, data, and educational services for the  
29 purpose of developing a comprehensive, statewide ~~telemedicine~~  
30 telehealth network, to an agency of the federal government,  
31 and to a post office defined as a public agency pursuant to  
32 section 8D.2, subsection 5. A hospital, physician clinic, an  
33 agency of the federal government, or a post office defined as  
34 a public agency pursuant to section 8D.2, subsection 5, shall  
35 be responsible for all costs associated with becoming a part

1 of the network.

2 Full-motion, interactive video services offered through the  
3 network to a hospital or physician clinic may be used by a  
4 licensed health care professional at such authorized user's  
5 site as long as the use is within the scope of practice of  
6 such health care professional.

7 EXPLANATION

8 This bill relates to the Iowa communications network and  
9 provides for the use of the network by health care  
10 professionals, hospitals, and clinics.

11 Code section 8D.2 is amended to add definitions for the  
12 terms "licensed health care professional" and "telehealth".

13 Code section 8D.6 is amended to provide that the Iowa  
14 telecommunications and technology commission is to establish  
15 an advisory group to examine the use of the network for  
16 telehealth applications. Currently, that section provides  
17 that the advisory group is to examine such use for  
18 telemedicine applications. The section is also amended to  
19 provide that members are to be appointed representing licensed  
20 health care professionals, in addition to current members who  
21 are to be appointed representing hospitals and other health  
22 care facilities.

23 Code section 8D.13 is amended to provide that full-motion,  
24 interactive video services offered through the network to a  
25 hospital or physician clinic may be used by a licensed health  
26 care professional at the authorized user's site as long as the  
27 use is within the scope of practice of the health care  
28 professional.

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