

**Date of State Budget Office Approval:**

**Date Requested:** Tuesday, February 02, 2016

**Date Due:** Friday, February 12, 2016

<i>Impact on Expenditures</i>		<i>Impact on Revenues</i>	
FY 2016	\$0	FY 2016	\$0
FY 2017	\$0	FY 2017	\$0
FY 2018	\$0	FY 2018	\$0

*Explanation by State Budget Office:*

This bill would amend:

Chapter 27-18 of RIGL entitled "Accident and Sickness Insurance Policies", by adding a new section 27-18-82 entitled "Telemedicine services."

Chapter 27-19 of RIGL entitled "Nonprofit Hospital Service Corporations", by adding to section 27-19-73 entitled "Telemedicine services."

Chapter 27-20 of RIGL entitled "Nonprofit Hospital Service Corporations", by adding to section 27-20-69 entitled "Telemedicine services."

Chapter 27-41 of RIGL entitled "Health Maintenance Organizations", by adding to section 27-41-86 entitled "Telemedicine services."

*Comments on Sources of Funds:*

This act would require insurance policies to provide coverage for the use of telecommunication services rendered to subscribers who reside on islands located within the state that are not connected to the mainland by a bridge or other structure.

This bill would have no impact on public funds, as it would likely only effect private providers and/or insurance carriers.

*Summary of Facts and Assumptions:*

This bill would take effect upon passage, which assumes July 1, 2016.

The bill would have no impact on public funds, however, it may have a marginal impact on medical providers or insurance carriers. The medical providers would want to bill for patient services as if they are seeing the patient in person, while the insurance carriers would want to pay for the services in a way that fits the out of office service provided. Carriers believe seeing a patient via skype is much different than seeing a patient in person, or some other video conferencing method, and therefore they believe that payment rates should be different.

*Summary of Fiscal Impact:*

Very few people would be potentially impacted by this legislation. New Shoreham, which is not connected to the state by a bridge or other structure, only has a population of 1,041 according to the 2010 census.

This legislation would have no fiscal impact on state budget.

*Prepared by:*

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State of Rhode Island

**Budget  
Office**

Department of Administration

**State Fiscal Note for Bill  
Number: 2016-H-7161**

Budget Office Signature:

Fiscal Advisor Signature:

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Monday, March 14, 2016

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