

**ADOPTED**

1 Senators Shafer of the 48th, Hudgens of the 47th and Moody of the 56th offered the  
2 following amendment:

3 Amend HB 291 by striking lines 10 through 25 on page 5 and inserting in lieu thereof the  
4 following:

5 "(c) It is the intent of the General Assembly to mitigate geographic discrimination in the  
6 delivery of health care by recognizing the application of and payment for covered medical  
7 care provided by means of telemedicine, provided that such services are provided by a  
8 physician or by another health care practitioner or professional acting within the scope of  
9 practice of such health care practitioner or professional and in accordance with the  
10 provisions of Code Section 43-34-31.1.

11 (d) On and after July 1, 2005, every health benefit policy that is issued, amended, or  
12 renewed shall include payment for services that are covered under such health benefit  
13 policy and are appropriately provided through telemedicine in accordance with Code  
14 Section 43-34-31.1 and generally accepted health care practices and standards prevailing  
15 in the applicable professional community at the time the services were provided. The  
16 coverage required in this Code section may be subject to all terms and conditions of the  
17 applicable health benefit plan."