The “State” of TeleHealth in Nevada:
Challenges and Proposed Solutions

Bill Welch,
President and CEO
Nevada Hospital Association
# Examples - Telemedicine delivery system

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Store and Forward</td>
<td><strong>Asynchronous</strong> transmission of images, test results, other data</td>
<td>Remote cardiology, dermatology, ophthalmology, pathology, radiology reading or interpretation services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Live Consultations</td>
<td><strong>Synchronous</strong> services provided via live video conferencing</td>
<td>Clinic or hospital based services between patients, primary care providers and medical specialists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remote Monitoring</td>
<td>Real-time transmission of patient physiological or biometric data</td>
<td>In home monitoring for chronic disease patients, or intensive care monitoring for ICU patients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Health</td>
<td>Communication and data or image transfer via mobile devices</td>
<td>E-visits, health education, remote monitoring, and transfer of medical data and images via mobile devices</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
National TeleHealth perspective

- Telemedicine parity laws have either **passed or are pending in 30 states**
TeleHealth challenges in Nevada

- Broadband connectivity
- Regulatory parity
Broadband connectivity challenge
Regulatory challenges

• Nevada has very limited TeleHealth laws/regulations governing:
  ▫ **Delivery** of Healthcare Services via telemedicine
  ▫ **Reimbursement** for Healthcare Services via telemedicine

• Lack of clarification has resulted in the availability of telemedicine services ONLY:
  ▫ In **rural** healthcare communities
  ▫ For originating **licensed healthcare facilities**
  ▫ For a **limited** number of appropriate telemedicine-enabled **services**
  ▫ For **Nevada licensed** Healthcare Providers
  ▫ When telemedicine services are **specifically addressed in health insurance policies**
Nevada’s TeleHealth Advancement Act of 2015 to:

- Recognize telemedicine as a “standard of care”
- Expand services to patients in rural AND urban communities
- Increase convenience by removing licensed healthcare facility limits
- Improve access and quality by allowing all telemedicine-enabled care to be provided
- Expand access by clarifying Healthcare Provider licensing
In addition, Nevada’s TeleHealth Advancement Act of 2015 should:

- Encourage innovation and investment via **reimbursement parity** for covered services

- Support objective for all Nevadans’ to have **timely access to high quality, cost effective care**:
  - Addresses inadequate provider distribution
  - Reduces healthcare spending caused by treatment delays
  - Strengthening healthcare infrastructure

- **Support economic development**
  - Preserves/increases healthcare related jobs by keeping patients’ care in Nevada
Questions?