

ENROLLED ACT NO. 81, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SIXTIETH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING  
2009 GENERAL SESSION

AN ACT relating to the administration of government; providing that the duties of the office of rural health include facilitation of a telemedicine/telehealth network as specified; and providing for an effective date.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

**Section 1.** W.S. 9-2-117(a)(vi) and by creating new paragraphs (vii) and (viii) is amended to read:

**9-2-117. Office of rural health care created; duties.**

(a) The office of rural health care is created within the department of health. The office shall:

(vi) In ~~cooperation with the state telecommunications council established under W.S. 9-2-1026.2,~~ coordinate and plan the development of collaboration with the state health officer and the state chief information officer, represent the department of health in a consortium of state agencies, private health organizations and professional and community organizations to facilitate the operations of a statewide interoperable telemedicine/telehealth capability network using existing ~~telecommunications internet protocol based communication and videoconferencing~~ infrastructure and telecommunication services to the extent possible. ~~In accordance with W.S. 9-2-1026.2, the office and the council shall report plans and recommendations to the governor and the legislature.~~ The consortium shall:

(A) Consist of members appointed by the director of the department of health, to include the Wyoming chief information officer or the officer's designee;

ORIGINAL HOUSE  
BILL NO. 0281

ENROLLED ACT NO. 81, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SIXTIETH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING  
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(B) Coordinate the development and promotion of statewide standards for an interoperable telemedicine/telehealth network and, where applicable, promote definitions and standards for statewide electronic health transactions;

(C) Promote and conduct education programs that inform network users that information communicated through the use of telemedicine/telehealth shall conform with state and federal privacy and security laws and information security programs established by the state chief information officer;

(D) Have the authority to seek funds for consortium operation and contract as needed to carry out its responsibilities.

(vii) In collaboration with the state health officer and the state chief information officer or their designees, coordinate with appropriate state agencies to establish incentives to implement, promote and facilitate the voluntary exchange of secure telemedicine/telehealth network information between and among individuals, entities and agencies that are providing and paying for services authorized under the Medicaid program, in conformity with rules adopted by the state chief information officer;

(viii) In collaboration with the state health officer and the state chief information officer or their designees, develop and promote a common direction for a statewide interoperable telemedicine/telehealth network among state agencies, in conformity with rules adopted by the state chief information officer.

ORIGINAL HOUSE  
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**Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2009.

(END)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

TIME APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this act originated in the House.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk