

**Telehealth
Bill No. LCO No. 3614
Testimony Submitted to the General Assembly
July Special Session, 2020**

Date: July 20, 2020

Name: Nancy Albert

Town: Lebanon, Connecticut

Senator Lesser, Representative Scanlon, Senator Kelly, Representative Pavalock-D'Amato, and distinguished members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee: My name Nancy Albert and I am a Behavioral Health Clinician for Generations Family Health Center at the Willimantic site. Generations is a Federally Qualified Community Health Center that provides medical, dental, behavioral health and support services in eastern Connecticut.

Telehealth has helped many of my patients over the past 5 months and would continue to help them even after the Coronavirus pandemic is over. An example of one of my patients that benefited from Telehealth and would continue to benefit is this patient:

My patient is a 77-year-old woman who is on oxygen for COPD and has difficulty walking. Prior to COVID-19 and telehealth, this client was being brought to the office by her home health worker as she has no car and this was extremely laborious for both the patient and her care giver. We transitioned to telehealth seamlessly and are achieving success with her treatment plans. My patient has told me that she prefers telehealth due to her mobility issues and her COPD.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue. I have many patients just like this woman, who would keep appointments and achieve success with their treatment plans if they were allowed to continue to utilize telehealth.