

# Top Alliance Accomplishments in Early 2022

*It has already been a momentous year for telehealth – we look forward to further successes later this year.*

## Legislative Accomplishments

- Successful Extension of Medicare Telehealth in the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2022 - following months of meetings with Congressional leaders to extend COVID-era telehealth policies for a temporary period.
- Successful Reenactment of Congressional HDHP-HSA Telehealth Flexibility after the Alliance led a campaign and letter to Congress that was signed by more than 125 organizations. This advocacy led to the successful inclusion of this provision effective March 31, 2022 through January 1, 2023 in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022.
- Introduction of the Bipartisan Telehealth Extension and Evaluation Act (S. 3593/H.R.7573), which the Alliance for Connected Care worked to shape and support. This bill would ensure patient access to telehealth following the end of the public health emergency (PHE) by extending telehealth flexibilities enacted during the COVID-19 pandemic for two years once the PHE ends.

## Progress Toward Permanent Telehealth

- Submission of a major letter to Congress, co-led by the Alliance and signed by more than 330 organizations, urging Congressional leadership in facilitating a pathway to comprehensive permanent telehealth reform.
- Publication of a major survey showing enormous support for continued telehealth including practitioners reporting that it is both a major tool to fight clinical burnout and improve access for vulnerable patients.
- Alliance work to collect and share data on telehealth utilization and costs may have helped to influence a lower CBO score of telehealth expansion.

## Progress Toward Meaningful Interstate Licensure

- Advocated for a federal solution to interstate licensure, leading to HHS Secretary Becerra calling on Congress to expand telehealth across state lines as well as significant interest from both the Biden Administration and bipartisan leaders in Congress.
- Published survey data on telehealth across state lines which found that practitioners and patients overwhelmingly support telehealth use across state lines, with more than 84 percent of practitioners supporting the option to treat patients across state lines.

## Leading the Conversation on Connected Care

- The Alliance is consistently cited as a leading voice on telehealth policy, with numerous contributions to the national dialogue and nearly 40 tracked press mentions during the first quarter of 2022.