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California Legislature  
Senate Select Committee  
on  
Autism & Related Disorders



Technology & Autism Spectrum Disorders Hearing  
***Telehealth Facts and Information***

*February 22, 2012*

One study estimates the complete deployment of telemedicine would save the nation \$4.3 billion a year—a \$511 million annual savings for California.

Telehealth increases access to care, improves outcomes, reduces costs, supports clinical education, improves patient support, and improves productivity.

A tele-evaluation program at 5 childcare centers reduced absences by 63% and let parents remain at work in 91% of cases evaluated by the program.

In 2007, only 3% of California consumers participated in a telehealth session.

Remote patient monitoring for heart disease, diabetes, pulmonary disease and skin disease could save an estimated \$197 billion nationwide over 25 years.

A Veterans Health Administration home telehealth program for vets with chronic conditions reduced hospital admissions by 19% and total bed days of care by 25%.

In 2006, California voters passed Proposition 1D, which allocates \$200 million to expand telehealth and medical education through the University of California

Barriers to telehealth use include concerns about costs and return on investment, clinician resistance, lack of broadband connectivity, and interstate privacy laws

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California prison officials provided roughly 9,000 telehealth consultations in 2004, saving taxpayers more than \$4 million in transportation and escort

