

HB 431 (Ivory, K) Anticipated Fiscal Impact:

Average annual increase of \$81,276 per year to the State of Utah.

Summary:

HB 431 requires PEHP to pay for health services provided to state employees through telemedicine on the same basis as other healthcare services.

PEHP currently pays for telemedicine services in a couple of different ways:

- PEHP has a contract with Intermountain Healthcare for ConnectCare which provides 24/7 telemedicine services for urgent care. This contract replaces the contract PEHP had with Amwell. The cost for an online visit is \$49 as compared to \$86 for an office visit and \$135 for an urgent care visit.
- PEHP pays other providers, such as mental health providers, 10% less than their normal rates when they offer telemedicine services to their patients.
- PEHP pays the same rate for certain professional specialty services usually provided via a hospital.

The state paid for 102 urgent care visits in December 2018. If PEHP were required to pay these visits the same as it does for office/urgent care visits, it would cost the state \$75,276 more per year. If this bill resulted in 25 telemedicine visits per month to a provider for which PEHP currently receives a 10% discount, the cost to the state would be about \$6,000. The total anticipated cost to the State Risk Pool would be \$81,276 ongoing.