

FACT SHEET

HB 3498 (Conroy)

- ▶ Telehealth authorization legislation, HB 3498 codifies Governor Pritzker's March 19, 2020 telehealth executive order, but the Executive Order (E.O.) and the bill exclude approximately 4,100 Illinois licensed dietitian nutritionists.
- ▶ Of the approximately 4,100 Illinois licensed dietitian nutritionists, **90% are women**.
- ▶ Last March, BlueCross BlueShield, for example, did voluntarily include dietitian nutritionists in their coverage.
- ▶ A March 19 BCBS "alert" explicitly cited the governor's E.O. to justify the extension of coverage to dietitian nutritionists.
- ▶ Despite an appeal from the Illinois Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics in April 2020, the governor's office declined to update the E.O.
- ▶ The Illinois Hospital Association's telehealth coalition's official position on HB3498 is to limit the covered health professionals to only those in the governor's original E.O.
- ▶ If HB 3498 becomes law, it could end up stripping existing coverage from more than 4,100 dietitian nutritionists.
- ▶ Meanwhile, dietitian nutritionists were recognized in the recently approved Black Caucus health care pillar legislation, HB158 (Lilly), as health care professionals.
- ▶ The federal Medicare program added dietitian nutritionists to the list of practitioners that may provide telehealth services in 2006.
- ▶ The Illinois Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics has presented a six-word amendment to Representative Deb Conroy that would include approximately 4,100 Illinois licensed dietitian nutritionists in HB3498.
- ▶ Including licensed dietitian nutritionists in the telehealth legislation would assure continuous access to safe, effective nutrition services that can improve the health of Illinois citizens.

Include Illinois Licensed Dietitian Nutritionists in TELEHEALTH BILL



EXCLUDES APPROXIMATELY

4,100

**ILLINOIS LICENSED
DIETITIAN NUTRITIONISTS**



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an affiliate of the
eat right. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

Illinois Academy
of Nutrition
and Dietetics