

For Immediate Release
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Hundreds of stakeholder organizations urge Congress to keep telehealth affordable for working families

Today, more than 300 companies and organizations including public and private sector employers, nonprofits, patient advocacy groups, health care companies, health care providers, emergency medical services, insurers, brokers, unions, and multinational companies signed a [letter](#) urging Congress to **pass legislation immediately to make permanent a popular telehealth provision that allows employers to offer telehealth services below the deductible to employees with a Health Savings Account (HSA)**. The flexibility for HSA-eligible plans, first enacted in 2020 and later extended through 2024, have helped millions of Americans access the care they need.

The letter, organized by the **Alliance to Fight for Health Care**, reminds congressional leaders that they “failed to address this popular provision, which expired at the end of 2024. Employers are now required to charge employees more to access telehealth services, creating a barrier to care, including tele-mental health and other specialty care. The nation’s ongoing mental health crisis demonstrates that Americans need more access to affordable mental and behavioral health services, not less.”

There is bipartisan, bicameral support in Congress to extend the flexibility for plans and employers to offer telehealth pre-deductible, as demonstrated by the widespread endorsement of legislation in the previous Congress (118th H.R. 1843/S. 1001). [Recent polling](#) also shows **86% of voters want Congress to keep telehealth affordable**. In 2025, 81% of [employers](#) intend to offer employees and their families access to lower- or no-cost mental health support through their tele-mental health provider. This access is critical to supporting mental health needs and removing barriers to care. Furthermore, employees do not want to lose access to pre-deductible telehealth benefits. In a December 2022 [survey](#), 78% said the flexibility made it easier to seek out needed health care services and 73% said Congress should make the provision permanent.

“Permanent telehealth flexibility is urgent and overdue,” said **Katy Johnson**, president of the **American Benefits Council**. “Tele-mental health care services are a popular time- and money-saving option for workers and their families. Continued failure to make this provision permanent would mean higher out-of-pocket costs to access telehealth, creating an unnecessary barrier to necessary treatment,” **Johnson** said.

“The [support](#) for affordable telehealth and tele-mental health is strong,” the letter concludes. “Allowing employers and health plans to continue offering these important services pre-deductible improves affordability and expands access. **We laud the bipartisan cosponsors for their work, and we urge Congress to act now to enact legislation that will make permanent this important flexibility.**”

[Stakeholder letter](#)

The **Alliance to Fight for Health Care** is a broad-based coalition comprised of businesses, patient advocates, employer organizations, unions, health care companies, consumer groups and other stakeholders that support employer-provided health coverage. Together, we are working to ensure that employer-provided coverage remains an available and affordable option for working Americans and their families.