## Telehealth State/ Federal Updates

JANUARY 6, 2025

WashingtonState
TelehealthCollaborative

## Federal Updates

- •Congress passed the <u>American Relief Act, 2025</u> that ensures the continuation of essential healthcare programs and includes critical provisions to sustain telehealth access for a 90-day period through March 31, 2025
- •The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) announced a third temporary extension until December 31, 2025 or until DEA makes a final rule regarding flexibilities for telemedicine prescribing of controlled substances
  - This pertains to the prescribing of controlled substances (Ryan Haight Act) when first visit is by telemedicine
  - DEA announcement <u>here</u>.
  - Federal rule <u>here</u>.

## Federal Updates

- •The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released the <u>2025</u>

  <u>Physician Fee Schedule</u>. The following list summarizes telehealth services under the physician fee schedule as shared from the <u>CMS Fact Sheet</u>:
  - Expansion of Telehealth Services
  - Flexibility in Audio-Only Communication
  - Direct Supervision via Telehealth
  - Virtual Presence of Teaching Physicians
  - Reinstatement of Pre-Pandemic Limitations