# Telehealth in Nevada and the Uniform Telehealth Act

David Orentlicher, MD, JD

Nevada Assemblyman

Las Professor, University of Nevada – Las Vegas

AB 198—Promoting access to health care Uniform Telehealth Act Allowing nurse anesthetists to reach full scope of practice

### **Telehealth under current law**

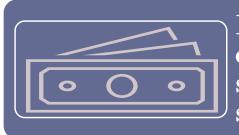
#### For a patient in Nevada

- Practitioners licensed in Nevada can diagnose, treat, and provide consultations or second opinions via telehealth
- Practitioners licensed in other states cannot provide telehealth services

## **Key UTA provisions**



Can establish a patient-practitioner relationship via telehealth (§ 4; already allowed per Nev. Rev. Stat. 629.515)



Provides for registration of "substantially equivalent" outof-state practitioners to provide telehealth services to instate patients (§ 6), but not to provide in-person care in the state (§ 9)



Allows unregistered out-of-state practitioners to provide telehealth services for consultations, second opinions, specialty assessments, or follow-up care with existing patients (§ 6)



Doesn't apply to patients who are out-of-state (§ 3) and doesn't address payment for telehealth services by insurers

# **Concerns about adopting the Uniform Telehealth Act (UTA)**

- Skepticism about the Uniform Law Commission
- Lack of adoptions in other states
- Nurses' union expressed concerns about the quality of telehealth generally (lack of physical presence; communication issues)
- Psychology Board worried about psychologists licensed in other states under less demanding standards (despite data from other states)
  - Regional accreditation in CA vs. APA accreditation in NV
  - 3000 hrs supervised in CA vs. 3750 hrs in NV