Supporting the designation of the week of September 19 through September 25, 2021, as “Telehealth Awareness Week”.

Whereas telehealth allows a health care practitioner to furnish health care services to a patient or a practitioner at a different physical location than the health care practitioner;

Whereas telehealth has played a significant role in supporting access to quality health care services for millions of patients during the COVID–19 public health emergency and will continue to be essential beyond the end of the public health emergency;

Whereas following the unprecedented use of telehealth and virtual care services in response to the public health emergency, telehealth now represents a significant per-
2

cent of care delivery, confirming the need to balance in-
person and virtual care in the health care system;

Whereas telehealth and virtual care services continue to pro-
vide patients and families with safe, appropriate, and
high-quality care where and when they need it, and 91
percent of Medicare beneficiaries are satisfied with their
telehealth experiences;

Whereas telehealth allows health care providers to securely
connect with patients wherever they are when an in-per-
son interaction is not clinically necessary or available and
expands access to health care services for patients in
need of specialty care, enabling the health care system to
do more good for more people;

Whereas telehealth is a bipartisan issue and Members of Con-
gress from both sides of the political aisle and both sides
of Capitol Hill are dedicated to ensuring patients con-
tinue to have the choice to access telehealth once the
COVID–19 public health emergency ends;

Whereas the United States must help improve broader access
to telehealth services for all individuals, including mem-
ers of rural and underserved communities; and

Whereas “Telehealth Awareness Week” unites the efforts of
patients, caregivers, health care providers, policymakers,
and other stakeholders to advance the role of telehealth
in health care: Now, therefore, be it

1 Resolved, That the Senate supports the designation
2 of the week of September 19 through September 25, 2021,
3 as “Telehealth Awareness Week”.