

Union Calendar No. 277

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2406

[Report No. 110-451]

To authorize the National Institute of Standards and Technology to increase its efforts in support of the integration of the healthcare information enterprise in the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 21, 2007

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science and Technology

NOVEMBER 15, 2007

Additional sponsors: Mr. GINGREY, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. WU, Mr. MATHESON, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, Mr. COSTELLO, Ms. HOOLEY, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. HILL, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. MITCHELL, Ms. WOOLSEY, Ms. GIFFORDS, Mr. MILLER of North Carolina, Mr. ROTHMAN, Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. ROSS, Mr. KANJORSKI, Mr. MELANCON, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, and Mr. SESTAK

NOVEMBER 15, 2007

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on May 21, 2007]

A BILL

To authorize the National Institute of Standards and Technology to increase its efforts in support of the integration

of the healthcare information enterprise in the United States.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 *This Act may be cited as the “Healthcare Information
5 Technology Enterprise Integration Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 *Congress finds the following:*

8 *(1) The National Institute of Standards and
9 Technology, because of the electronic commerce, infor-
10 mation technology and security expertise in its lab-
11 oratories and the healthcare component of the Mal-
12 colm Baldrige National Quality Award, and its long
13 history of working with the information technology
14 and healthcare industries, is well equipped to com-
15 plement the healthcare information technology imple-
16 mentation efforts as established by Executive Order
17 13335 of April 27, 2004, by addressing the technical
18 challenges posed by healthcare information enterprise
19 integration.*

20 *(2) Therefore, it is in the national interest for
21 the National Institute of Standards and Technology
22 to accelerate its efforts—*

23 *(A) to participate in the development of
24 technical standards, standards conformance tests,*

1 *and enterprise integration processes that are nec-*
2 *essary to increase efficiency and quality of care,*
3 *and lower costs in the healthcare industry; and*
4 *(B) ensuring that all components of the*
5 *United States healthcare infrastructure can be a*
6 *part of an electronic information network that is*
7 *reliable, interoperable, and secure.*

8 **SEC. 3. HEALTHCARE INFORMATION ENTERPRISE INTEGRA-**
9 **TION INITIATIVE.**

10 *(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Director of the National*
11 *Institute of Standards and Technology shall establish an*
12 *initiative for advancing healthcare information enterprise*
13 *integration within the United States. In carrying out this*
14 *section, the Director shall involve various units of the Na-*
15 *tional Institute of Standards and Technology, including its*
16 *laboratories and the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality*
17 *Program. This initiative shall build upon ongoing efforts*
18 *of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the*
19 *private sector, and other Federal agencies, shall involve con-*
20 *sortia that include government and industry, and shall be*
21 *designed to permit healthcare information enterprise inte-*
22 *gration. These efforts shall complement ongoing activities*
23 *occurring under Executive Order 13335 of April 27, 2004.*

24 *(b) TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES.—In order to carry out*
25 *this section, the Director may focus on—*

7 (3) security;

8 (4) medical device communication;

12 (6) information management including elec-
13 tronic health records management, health information
14 usability, and access and decision support.

15 (c) OTHER ACTIVITIES.—The Director may assist
16 healthcare representatives and organizations and Federal
17 agencies in the development of technical roadmaps that
18 identify the remaining steps needed to ensure that technical
19 standards for application protocols, interoperability, data
20 integrity, and security, as well as the corollary conformance
21 test protocols, will be in place. These roadmaps shall rely
22 upon voluntary consensus standards where possible con-
23 sistent with Federal technology transfer laws.

24 (d) PLANS AND REPORTS.—Not later than 90 days
25 after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually there-

1 after, the Director shall transmit a report to the Committee
2 on Science and Technology of the House of Representatives
3 and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-
4 tation of the Senate on the activities of the National Insti-
5 tute of Standards and Technology under this section.

6 **SEC. 4. FEDERAL HEALTHCARE INFORMATION TECH-**
7 **NOLOGY SYSTEMS AND INFRASTRUCTURE.**

8 (a) *GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS.*—Not later than 12
9 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director
10 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, in
11 consultation with industry and appropriate Federal agen-
12 cies, shall report on development of technology-neutral in-
13 formation technology infrastructure guidelines and stand-
14 ards, or the adoption of existing technology-neutral indus-
15 try guidelines and private sector standards, for use by Fed-
16 eral agencies to enable those agencies to effectively select and
17 utilize healthcare information technologies in a manner
18 that is—

19 (1) *sufficiently secure to meet the needs of those*
20 *agencies (as is consistent with the Computer Security*
21 *Act of 1987, as amended, section 225 of the Homeland*
22 *Security Act of 2002, and title III of the E-Govern-*
23 *ment Act of 2002), their transaction partners, and the*
24 *general public;*

7 (b) ELEMENTS.—The guidelines and standards devel-
8 oped under subsection (a) shall—

20 (4) provide protection and security profiles;

4 (c) REPORTS.—Not later than 18 months after the date
5 of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Direc-
6 tor shall transmit to the Congress a report that includes
7 a description and analysis of—

15 SEC. 5. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.

16 (a) *HEALTHCARE INFORMATION ENTERPRISE INTE-*
17 *GRATION RESEARCH CENTERS.—*

1 *tories) to establish multidisciplinary Centers for*
2 *Healthcare Information Enterprise Integration.*

3 *(2) REVIEW; COMPETITION.—Grants shall be*
4 *awarded under this subsection on a merit-reviewed,*
5 *competitive basis.*

6 *(3) PURPOSE.—The purposes of the Centers shall*
7 *be—*

8 *(A) to generate innovative approaches to*
9 *healthcare information enterprise integration by*
10 *conducting cutting-edge, multidisciplinary re-*
11 *search on the systems challenges to healthcare de-*
12 *livery; and*

13 *(B) the development and use of information*
14 *technologies and other complementary fields.*

15 *(4) RESEARCH AREAS.—Research areas may in-*
16 *clude—*

17 *(A) the interfaces between human informa-*
18 *tion and communications technology systems;*

19 *(B) voice-recognition systems;*

20 *(C) software that improves interoperability*
21 *and connectivity among systems;*

22 *(D) software dependability in systems crit-*
23 *ical to healthcare delivery;*

4 (F) healthcare information enterprise man-
5 agement; and

(G) information technology security and integrity.

23 (C) technology transfer activities to dem-
24 onstrate and diffuse the research results, tech-
25 nologies, and knowledge; and

5 (b) NATIONAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH
6 AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.—The National High-Per-
7 formance Computing Program established by section 101 of
8 the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991 (15 U.S.C.
9 5511) shall coordinate Federal research and development
10 programs related to the development and deployment of
11 health information technology, including activities related
12 to—

13 (1) computer infrastructure;

14 (2) data security;

15 (3) development of large-scale, distributed, reli-

16 able computing systems;

17 (4) wired, wireless, and hybrid high-speed net-

18 working;

19 (5) development of software and software-inten-

20 sive systems;

21 (6) human-computer interaction and informa-

22 tion management technologies; and

23 (7) the social and economic implications of in-

24 formation technology.

1 (c) *STRATEGIC PLAN FOR HEALTHCARE TECHNOLOGIES AND CLASSIFICATION.*—

3 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Director of the National*
4 *Institute of Standards and Technology, in consulta-*
5 *tion with the Director of the National Science Foun-*
6 *dation, not later than 90 days after the date of enact-*
7 *ment of this Act, shall establish a task force whose*
8 *membership includes representatives of other Federal*
9 *agencies and industry groups (such as the American*
10 *Health Information Management Association and the*
11 *American Medical Informatics Association) to develop*
12 *a strategic plan including recommendations for—*

13 (A) *the development, adoption, and mainte-*
14 *nance of terminologies and classifications;*

15 (B) *gaining commitment of terminology*
16 *and classification stakeholders (such as devel-*
17 *opers, end users, and other service and tech-*
18 *nology suppliers) to principles and guidelines for*
19 *open and transparent processes to enable cost-ef-*
20 *fective interoperability and complete and accu-*
21 *rate information;*

22 (C) *the design of a centralized authority or*
23 *governance model, including principles for its*
24 *operation and funding scenarios;*

4 (E) any other issues identified by the task
5 force.

16 SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

17 *There are authorized to be appropriated to the Director*
18 *of the National Institute of Standards and Technology for*
19 *carrying out this Act \$8,000,000 for each of the fiscal years*
20 *2009 and 2010, to be derived from amounts authorized*
21 *under section 3001 of Public Law 110–69.*

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