



July 5, 2017

The Honorable Michael Burgess
2336 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-4326

The Honorable Mike Thompson
231 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-0505

The Honorable Debbie Dingell
116 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-2212

The Honorable Pat Tiberi
1203 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-3512

Dear Representatives Burgess, Dingell, Thompson, and Tiberi:

The College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME) is pleased to support the bi-partisan bill, H.R. 3120, introduced on June 30. The legislation would enable greater flexibility for the participants of the Medicare and Medicaid EHR Program, also known as Meaningful Use.

CHIME is an executive organization serving more than 2,300 chief information officers (CIOs) and other senior health information technology leaders at hospitals and clinics across the nation. CHIME members are responsible for the selection and implementation of clinical and business technology systems that are facilitating healthcare transformation. Our members represent some of the earliest and most prolific adopters of electronic health records (EHRs) and other health IT resources for clinicians and patients.

Since enactment of the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act of 2009 (HITECH), our members have made significant investments into electronic health records (EHRs) and other health IT because they recognize how transformative this can be to the delivery of patient care. This said, they believe being required to meet an ever-increasing set of complex requirements will hinder rather than hurt their ability to use technology in a manner they deem most appropriate to care for their patients. This bill addresses this issue by removing the clause that indicates the program must create an escalated set of requirements to be met by providers over time.

We appreciate your continued interest and leadership on this subject and stand ready to continue to work with you and your colleagues on improving this program. Should you have questions about our position or require additional information, please contact Leslie Krigstein, Vice President of Congressional Affairs, at lkrigstein@chimecentral.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Russell P. Branzell". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Russell P. Branzell, CHCIO, LCHIME
President and CEO
CHIME