

## Advocacy Day 2008 Requests



*Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society*

### *In Partnership with the Telehealth Leadership Conference*

**Our goal is to transform the safety, quality and efficiency of healthcare through the rapid adoption and use of health information technology and management systems as critical tools in that endeavor.**

**Specifically, what you can do now is:**

#### **FUNDING**

- Fully fund the President's Fiscal Year 2009 Health Information Technology Budget Request for the Department of Health and Human Services of **\$118 million** as a **minimum baseline** for transforming healthcare using information technology and management systems.
- Fund the Office for the Advancement of Telehealth (OAT) at **\$13.8 million** in Fiscal Year 2009.

#### **LEGISLATION**

- As proposed in **S. 1693 and H.R. 3800**, codify the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT in order to accelerate the appropriate development of health information exchange through integration and interoperability, standards adoption, and privacy and security in the healthcare community.
- **Pass S. 2408/H.R. 4296** (Medicare Electronic Medication and Safety Protection [E-MEDS] Act of 2007) as one of many steps needed to implement a longitudinal lifetime electronic health record.
- **Support S. 2812**, the Telehealth Improvement Act of 2008, sponsored by Senators Kent Conrad (D-ND) and Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) to add originating sites (skilled nursing facilities, dialysis centers & community mental health centers) and new telehealth providers (physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech language pathologists & diabetes educators).
- **Support H.R. 6163**, the Medicare Telehealth Enhancement Act of 2008, to improve and expand telehealth services and access to those services.

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