



Position Statement

H.R. 2377

Assisting Doctors to Obtain Proficient and Transmissible Health Information Technology (ADOPT HIT) Act of 2007

Call to Action

H. R. 2377 was introduced by U.S. Representatives Phil Gingrey (R-GA) and Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL) on May 17, 2007. The legislation increases the deduction under section 179 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 for the acquisition of qualified health information technology by healthcare providers and for other purposes. The bill was referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means as well as the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, and then further referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Section 2 lists the specific amendments to section 179 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that increase funding for the purchase of qualified health information technology by a healthcare provider for any property acquired and placed in service after December 31, 2006. The section also defines “qualified health information technology” as a product certified by the Secretary of Health and Human Services pursuant to section 3 of this bill and as one used for the creation, maintenance, and exchange of healthcare information in order to improve the quality and efficiency of healthcare.

Section 3 states that the Secretary of Health and Human Services should certify health information technology based on certain criteria. Furthermore, the Secretary may enlist the aid of a private entity or entities in the certification process.

Closing Remarks

HIMSS creates legislative principles for all stakeholders to consider for inclusion as provisions in any legislation proposed by the U.S. Congress or State Legislatures to transform healthcare. Legislation needs to be enacted to promote healthcare IT initiatives by endorsing the integration of IT into the delivery of patient care and the support of health and wellness. HIMSS position is to **endorse this legislation** to help incentivize physicians and it is consistent with our Legislative Principles. Questions on this fact sheet should be addressed to Dave Roberts, FHIMSS, HIMSS Vice President for Government Relations, at 703.837.9811 or via email at droberts@himss.org.