

STATE OF ARKANSAS
MIKE BEEBE
GOVERNOR

February 1, 2012

Senator Gilbert Baker, Co-Chair
Representative Kathy Webb, Co-Chair
Joint Budget Committee
Arkansas General Assembly
State Capitol Building
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Co-Chairs:

I respectfully request an amendment to the Annual Operations Appropriation Bill for the Office of Health Information Technology of the Arkansas Science and Technology Authority.

Please AMEND the following:

In the Bill Title and Subtitle, please delete "ARKANSAS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AUTHORITY".

In SECTION 1 REGULAR SALARIES, please delete "Arkansas Science and Technology Authority".

In SECTION 2 APPROPRIATION – OFFICE OF HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – FEDERAL OPERATIONS, please delete all instances of "Arkansas Science and Technology Authority" and replace with "Office of Health Information Technology" where appropriate.

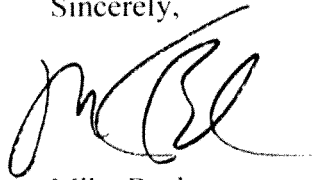
In SECTION 3 APPROPRIATION – OFFICE OF HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE – STATE, please delete all instances of "Arkansas Science and Technology Authority" and replace with "Office of Health Information Technology" where appropriate. Please also replace Item 01 - \$1,500,000 with \$6,000,000.

This request is necessary to establish the Office of Health Information Technology as an independent agency to fulfill its duties and responsibilities as outlined in Act 891 of 2011 and to provide sufficient appropriation for Health Information Technology fees to be charged by the agency.

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I appreciate your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MB', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mike Beebe

MB:brs:jh