

1 State of Arkansas  
2 90th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2015  
4

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 674

5 By: Senator J. Woods  
6

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION TO THE OFFICE OF  
9 HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FOR ELECTRONIC RECORDS  
10 MANAGEMENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
11

## Subtitle

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13 AN ACT FOR THE OFFICE OF HEALTH  
14 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY GENERAL  
15 IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.  
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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21 SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - ELECTRONIC RECORDS MANAGEMENT. There is  
22 hereby appropriated, to the Office of Health Information Technology, to be  
23 payable from the General Improvement Fund or its successor fund or fund  
24 accounts, the following:

25 (A) for grants for personal services, operating expenses, professional  
26 fees and services, and debt service expenses for increasing the adoption of  
27 electronic health records to improve patient care and outcomes, reducing the  
28 cost of care to patient and state, and improving the efficiency of the health  
29 information exchange, in a sum not to exceed.....\$3,000,000.  
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31 SECTION 2. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
32 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

33 Notwithstanding any other rules, regulations or provision of law to the  
34 contrary the appropriations authorized in this Act shall not be restricted by  
35 requirements that may be applicable to other programs currently administered.  
36 New rules and regulations may be adopted to carry out the intent of the



1 General Assembly regarding the appropriations authorized in this Act.

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3 SECTION 3. DISBURSEMENT CONTROLS. (A) No contract may be awarded nor  
4 obligations otherwise incurred in relation to the project or projects  
5 described herein in excess of the State Treasury funds actually available  
6 therefor as provided by law. Provided, however, that institutions and  
7 agencies listed herein shall have the authority to accept and use grants and  
8 donations including Federal funds, and to use its unobligated cash income or  
9 funds, or both available to it, for the purpose of supplementing the State  
10 Treasury funds for financing the entire costs of the project or projects  
11 enumerated herein. Provided further, that the appropriations and funds  
12 otherwise provided by the General Assembly for Maintenance and General  
13 Operations of the agency or institutions receiving appropriation herein shall  
14 not be used for any of the purposes as appropriated in this act.

15 (B) The restrictions of any applicable provisions of the State Purchasing  
16 Law, the General Accounting and Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue  
17 Stabilization Law and any other applicable fiscal control laws of this State  
18 and regulations promulgated by the Department of Finance and Administration,  
19 as authorized by law, shall be strictly complied with in disbursement of any  
20 funds provided by this act unless specifically provided otherwise by law.

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22 SECTION 4. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General  
23 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations  
24 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for  
25 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive  
26 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget  
27 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or  
28 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative  
29 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

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31 SECTION 5. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General  
32 Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits the  
33 appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the  
34 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2015 is essential to the operation of  
35 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in  
36 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the

effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2015 could work irreparable harm upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2015.

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