

1 State of Arkansas
2 91st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2017
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 470

5 By: Senator Teague
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.....\$5,000,000.
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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
16 Purchasing Law, the General Accounting and Budgetary Procedures Law, the
17 Revenue Stabilization Law and any other applicable fiscal control laws of
18 this State and regulations promulgated by the Department of Finance and
19 Administration, as authorized by law, shall be strictly complied with in
20 disbursement of any funds provided by this act unless specifically provided
21 otherwise by law.

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

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32 SECTION 5. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General
33 Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits the
34 appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the
35 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2017 is essential to the operation of
36 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in

1 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the
2 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2017 could work irreparable harm
3 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental
4 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act
5 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health
6 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2017.
7 Notwithstanding any other rules, regulations or provision of law to the
8 contrary the appropriations authorized in this Act shall not be restricted by
9 requirements that may be applicable to other programs currently administered.
10 New rules and regulations may be adopted to carry out the intent of the
11 General Assembly regarding the appropriations authorized in this Act.

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