

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 5, 2009

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 22, 2009

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009—10 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 598**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member De La Torre**

February 25, 2009

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An act to add Division 110.5 (commencing with Section 130350) to the Health and Safety Code, relating to public health.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 598, as amended, De La Torre. California Health Information Network.

Existing law establishes the Office of Health Information Integrity within the California Health and Human Services Agency to ensure the enforcement of state law mandating confidentiality of medical information and to impose administrative fines for the unauthorized use of medical information.

This bill would establish the California Health Information Network and the California Health Information Standards Advisory Board within the California Health and Human Services Agency with prescribed duties related to making recommendations for the adoption of health information exchange standards and would require the secretary to report ~~annually~~ *no later than July 1, 2010*, to the Governor and the Legislature regarding progress at meeting the goals of the bill, including, but not limited to, recommendations relating to necessary statutory changes.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Division 110.5 (commencing with Section  
2 130350) is added to the Health and Safety Code, to read:

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DIVISION 110.5. THE CALIFORNIA HEALTH  
INFORMATION NETWORK

7 130350. (a) There is within the California Health and Human  
8 Services Agency, the California Health Information Network.

9 (b) The network shall review and, after public hearings for the  
10 purpose of receiving input from all interested parties, recommend  
11 adoption of health information exchange standards to the Governor  
12 and the Legislature.

13 (c) The Secretary of the California Health and Human Services  
14 Agency shall administer the network.

15 (d) The goal of the standards developed by the network shall  
16 be the accomplishment of all of the following:

17 (1) Establishment and maintenance of an electronic,  
18 value-added, network to link the health care community  
19 participants in the state for the purpose of interchanging important  
20 financial and clinical information.

21 (2) Standardization of health care transactions, health care  
22 reporting, electronic interface development, and health care  
23 communications services.

24 (3) Gathering and providing data to a statewide data repository.

25 (4) Conducting educational programs consistent with the  
26 purposes of this division.

27 (5) Providing charitable services that lessen the burdens of  
28 government by providing data to help state agencies fulfill their  
29 responsibilities as legislatively mandated.

30 (6) Developing capabilities for standards-based, secure data  
31 exchange in compliance with federal standards.

32 (7) Improving the coordination of health care information among  
33 hospitals, laboratories, physicians' offices, pharmacies, and other  
34 health care providers.

35 (8) Ensuring appropriate information is available at the time  
36 and place of care.

37 (9) Ensuring that consumers' health information is secure and  
38 confidential.

1 (10) Providing consumers with access to their health information  
2 from electronic health records and other sources, and providing  
3 new capabilities for consumers to manage and control their  
4 personal health records.

5 (11) Supporting the delivery of appropriate evidence-based  
6 medical care and reducing the risks associated with medical errors.

7 (12) Lowering health care costs resulting from inefficiencies,  
8 medical errors, and incomplete patient information.

9 130351. (a) There is within the California Health and Human  
10 Services Agency, the California Health Information Standards  
11 Advisory Board composed of representatives from all of the  
12 following:

13 (1) The Department of Finance.

14 (2) The Department of Insurance.

15 (3) The Department of Managed Health Care.

16 (4) The Office of Health Information Integrity.

17 (5) The California Association of Health Plans.

18 (6) The California Association of Physician Groups.

19 (7) The California Hospital Association.

20 (8) The California Medical Association.

21 (9) *The California Primary Care Association.*

22 (10) *The California Pharmacists Association.*

23 (11) *A labor union organization whose membership has*  
24 *experience and expertise related to health care information*  
25 *exchange.*

26 (12) *A business association whose membership provides health*  
27 *care to its employees.*

28 (b) The advisory board shall provide the secretary with  
29 recommendations relating to every component of the secretary's  
30 duties under this division.

31 130352. The secretary shall report ~~annually~~ *no later than July*  
32 *1, 2010*, to the Governor and the Legislature on its progress in  
33 implementing this division, including, but not limited to,  
34 recommended statutory changes necessary to accomplish the goals  
35 set forth in this division.