

# HIMSS Advocacy Updates



**HIMSS**  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA *Chapter*

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# Advocacy Matters

- Technology & Legislation
- Passing legislation is like building a pyramid
- In order to be heard, you have to speak up!

## **3 Asks**

- **Interoperability**
  - Data Transmission standards
  - Quality reporting standards
- **Tele-Health**
  - Expand reimbursement mechanisms (voice/video)
  - Expand definition of providers and acceptable locations
- **Cyber security**
  - S.754 - Cyber security Information Sharing Act of 2015

## H.R. 270 Flexibility in Health IT Reporting (Flex-IT) Act of 2015

- **Ask:** Decrease attestation period from 12 to 3 months
- **Update:** 1/29/2015 CMS agreed to adopt this ruling

# H.R.691 Tele-health Modernization Act of 2015

- **Ask:** Eliminate the restrictions contained in Section 1834(m) of the Social Security Act which greatly limit patient and provider access to tele-health technologies and, in effect result in increased overall costs and limit access to care.
  
- **Update:** 02/06/2015 Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

# Law No: 114-10: Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act

- **Update:** On April 14<sup>th</sup> Senate passed legislation that replaced the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR). The bill also funds the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and community health centers for two more years. This law urges EHR interoperability among vendors & healthcare organizations.
- **Position:** “The SGR repeal highlights the opportunity we have this year to make great strides to advance interoperable systems ensure quality improvements are achieved that are good for the patient, provider, and overall system transformation.”
- **Monitor:** Implementation of Interoperability among EHRs