

DRAFT – FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES

Committee Charter

Committee Responsibilities

The HITSAC will advise the Information Technology Advisory Council (ITAC) on the approval of nationally recognized technical and data standards for health information technology systems or software pursuant to subdivision 7 of § [2.2-2699](#) in the Code of Virginia.

Guiding Principles

1. Define a utility and functional and technical standards for, and identify steps to create, a Health Information Exchange and Commonwealth Gateway.
2. Focus on data requirements for both patient health purposes and public health purposes (research).
3. Ensure person centric data are available within the Commonwealth for rapid and efficient electronic exchange of information about individuals.
4. Adhere to all applicable state and federal laws regarding the privacy and security of protected health and other personal sensitive information.
5. Recognize that the selection of standards that support the exchange of Electronic Medical Records (EMR) and Electronic Health Records (EHR), provide for an open shared utility.
6. Focus on the standards and implementation specifications required for interoperability.
7. Be congruent with the guidance of the Federal Health Information Technology Policy Committee (HITPC), Health Information Technology Standards Committee (HITSC) of the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) and achieve semantic interoperability with their work.
8. Adopt national standards where they exist. In the absence of a national standard, adopt other standards to meet the Commonwealth's needs.
9. Ensure that the recommended standards and specifications have been verified to be fit for need prior to adoption.
10. Contribute to substantial education and outreach that raise the understanding of leaders in public office for the requirements of health information exchange.

Background Information

The enabling statute from the Code of Virginia is as follows:

§ 2.2-225. Position established; agencies for which responsible; additional powers.

The position of Secretary of Technology (the Secretary) is created. The Secretary shall be responsible to the Governor for the following agencies, councils, and boards:

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Information Technology Advisory Council, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Investment Authority, Virginia Information Technologies Agency, Virginia Geographic Information Network Advisory Board, and the Wireless E-911 Services Board. The Governor, by executive order, may assign any other state executive agency to the Secretary, or reassign any agency listed in this section to another Secretary.

Unless the Governor expressly reserves such power to himself, the Secretary may, with regard to strategy development, planning and budgeting for technology programs in the Commonwealth:

1. Monitor trends and advances in fundamental technologies of interest and importance to the economy of the Commonwealth and direct and approve a stakeholder-driven technology strategy development process that results in a comprehensive and coordinated view of research and development goals for industry, academia and government in the Commonwealth. This strategy shall be updated biennially and submitted to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Delegates and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. ...

12. Review and approve statewide technical and data standards for information technology and related systems, including the utilization of nationally recognized technical and data standards for health information technology systems or software purchased by a state agency of the Commonwealth, as recommended by the CIO.

§ 2.2-2007. Powers of the CIO.

A. In addition to such other duties as the Secretary may assign, the CIO shall:

1. Monitor trends and advances in information technology; develop a comprehensive, statewide, two-year strategic plan for information technology to include: (i) specific projects that implement the plan; (ii) a plan for the acquisition, management, and use of information technology by state agencies; and (iii) a report of the progress of any ongoing enterprise application projects, any factors or risks that might affect their successful completion, and any changes to their projected implementation costs and schedules. The statewide plan shall be updated annually and submitted to the Secretary for approval. ...

12. Develop and recommend to the Secretary statewide technical and data standards for information technology and related systems, including the utilization of nationally recognized technical and data standards for health information technology systems or software purchased by a state agency of the Commonwealth.

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§ 2.2-2699.6. Powers and duties of the ITAC.

The ITAC shall have the power and duty to:

1. Adopt rules and procedures for the conduct of its business;
2. Advise the CIO on the development of all major information technology projects as defined in § [2.2-2006](#);
3. Advise the CIO on strategies, standards, and priorities for the use of information technology for state agencies in the executive branch of state government;
4. Advise the CIO on developing the two-year plan for information technology projects;
5. Advise the CIO on statewide technical and data standards for information technology and related systems, including the utilization of nationally recognized technical and data standards for health information technology systems or software purchased by a state agency of the Commonwealth;
6. Advise the CIO on statewide information technology architecture and related system standards;
7. Advise the CIO on assessing and meeting the Commonwealth's business needs through the application of information technology; and
8. Advise the CIO on the prioritization, development, and implementation of enterprise-wide technology applications; annually review all agency technology applications budgets; and advise the CIO on infrastructure expenditures. For purposes of this section, technology applications include, but are not limited to, hardware, software, maintenance, facilities, contractor services, goods, and services that promote business functionality and facilitate the storage, flow, use or processing of information by agencies of the Commonwealth in the execution of their business activities.

(2010, cc. [136](#), [145](#).)

§ 2.2-2699.7. Health Information Technology Standards Advisory Committee.

The ITAC may appoint an advisory committee of persons with expertise in health care and information technology to advise the ITAC on the utilization of nationally recognized technical and data standards for health information technology systems or software pursuant to subdivision 5 of § [2.2-2699.6](#). The ITAC, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, may appoint up to five persons to serve on the advisory

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committee. Members appointed to the advisory committee shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for all reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as provided in § [2.2-2825](#). The CIO, the Secretary of Technology, and the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, or their designees, may also serve on the advisory committee.

(2010, cc. [136](#), [145](#).)