



Business Roundtable™

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July 21, 2008

The Honorable John D. Dingell
Chairman
House Energy and Commerce Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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The McGraw-Hill Companies
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Executive Director
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Dear Chairman Dingell:

On behalf of Business Roundtable, thank you for your work on H.R. 6357, the "Protecting Records, Optimizing Treatment, and Easing Communication through Healthcare Technology Act," or "PRO(TECH)T Act," bipartisan legislation that would create uniform, interoperable standards for health information technology (HIT). We applaud your leadership in moving the legislation forward and we hope to have a continued dialogue with you as you move through the process to ensure that the legislation can be signed into law this Congress.

Enactment of HIT legislation is a top priority for Business Roundtable, an association of CEOs of leading U.S. companies with \$4.5 trillion in annual revenues. Our companies provide workplace health coverage for over 35 million Americans and we believe our health care system must use current technologies to promote efficiencies, reduce errors and provide the technological platform to assess the quality and value of health care.

We appreciate your continued review of how to protect personal health information without over-regulating or creating undue burdens within the system. We believe that uniform security standards should be adopted so that personal health information is protected without negatively impacting quality, patient safety and efficiency of health care.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for your leadership on this important legislation and we urge you to move forward and set the right balance for legislation, uniform standards for interoperability and uniform standards to protect the security of these systems.

Sincerely,

John J. Castellani