

**B 002 02**

## **EXECUTIVE ORDER**

### **Creating the Governor's Task Force on HIPAA Implementation**

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Office of the Governor of the State of Colorado, I, Bill Owens, Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order creating the Governor's Task Force on HIPAA Implementation.

#### 1. Background and Need

In 1996, the United States Congress and the President of the United States approved the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act ("HIPAA"). While most widely known for allowing portability of health insurance between jobs, HIPAA contains a number of requirements regarding the electronic transmission of health-related information and related privacy and security concerns.

Full implementation of HIPAA will eventually include several rules, but at the present time only two rules are final, one dealing with standard transaction codes, and the other with privacy. A third rule related to security of health information is forthcoming. The compliance deadline for the transactions codes rule is October 16, 2003, and the compliance deadline for the privacy rule is April 14, 2003. These new federal regulations apply to numerous state departments and full compliance with these regulations is necessary.

Therefore, I am directing each Executive Director to devote resources necessary to reach full compliance with HIPAA and to request additional funds, if needed, through the Office of State Planning and Budgeting. Additionally, I am creating a task force to monitor and assist state agencies with compliance and to ensure that the rules are consistently and efficiently implemented across state government.

#### 2. Mission

- A. The Governor's Task Force on HIPAA Implementation ("the Task Force") is hereby created to coordinate and ensure adequate and effective statewide implementation of HIPAA.

B. The Task Force shall:

- (1) Monitor the progress of HIPAA compliance efforts at each state agency;
- (2) Make recommendations as necessary to the Governor's Office and state departments regarding issues related to HIPAA implementation;
- (3) Report regularly to the Governor's Office on its progress.

C. Each state department is hereby directed to assist and cooperate with the Task Force.

### 3. Membership

All members shall be appointed by the Governor and serve at the pleasure of the Governor. Membership of the Task Force may be revised at any time as determined by the Governor.

The Task Force members shall include:

- A. One representative from the Colorado Department of Corrections;
- B. One representative from the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing;
- C. One representative from the Colorado Department of Human Services;
- D. One representative from the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment;
- E. One representative from the Colorado Department of Law;
- F. One representative from the Colorado Department of Personnel/General Support Services;
- G. One representative from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment;
- H. One representative from the Colorado Commission on Higher Education;
- I. Four representatives from the Governor's Office.

### 4. Task Force Operations

The Governor shall appoint one member as chair of the Task Force. The chair shall adopt such procedural rules as necessary to conduct Task Force meetings and other business. Members of the Task Force shall serve without compensation. A quorum shall consist of 8 Task Force

members, and any final recommendation of the Task Force submitted to the Governor shall be approved by at least 7 voting members of the Task Force.

5. Duration.

This Executive Order and the Task Force shall continue in existence until June 30, 2004, unless terminated or extended by the Governor.

GIVEN under my hand and the  
Executive Seal of the State of  
Colorado this 6th day of  
February, 2002.

Bill Owens  
Governor