

1 NATIONAL GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION
2 STATE ALLIANCE FOR E-HEALTH
3 QUARTERLY CONFERENCE
4 Monday, May 12, 2008
5 8:35 a.m.
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7 The Ritz-Carlton
8 Plaza Ballroom
9 Washington, D.C.

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The meeting commenced, pursuant to notice,
at the The Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Monday, May 12, 2008
in Washington, D.C., at 8:35 a.m. Governor Jim
Douglas (Co-Chair), presiding.

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S
2 (8:35 a.m.)
3 GOVERNOR DOUGLAS: Let's call the meeting
4 for the State Alliance for E-Health to order. I want

5 to welcome everyone this morning. Thanks for coming
6 to our nation's capitol in a very inclement weather
7 situation. I hope it's more pleasant where you come
8 from and will soon return.

9 Governor Bredesen is not with us today.
10 He is addressing his state legislature on the budget
11 situation in Tennessee, which is challenging along
12 with the status of a number of other states. We wish
13 him well as he deals with those challenges, but we'll
14 forge ahead.

15 As some of you know, we've asked you to
16 lead the discussion on some areas of our
17 deliberations this morning so that our audience won't
18 be bored by my voice throughout the entire day. They
19 can be bored by multiple voices.

20 (Laughter.)

21 GOVERNOR DOUGLAS: We hope not. We think
22 we have some important ground to cover and we

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1 appreciate everyone taking the time to be with us
2 again.

3 Just to recap, at our last meeting we
4 talked a great deal about e-Prescribing. You'll
5 recall this wasn't one of our initial priorities, but
6 based on the needs in our states and the
7 deliberations of the Alliance, we decided it would be
8 a very important priority. We outlined a document
9 that sets a goal, a timeframe that states might
10 commit to achieve widespread adoption and use of e-

11 Prescribing. We heard Senator Moore tout the fact
12 that Massachusetts has the highest percentage of
13 prescription transmittal electronically and the
14 material he got for this meeting we had the rankings
15 of all the states. Sure enough, you're far and away
16 above the rest of the states. We look forward to
17 other states doing better as time goes on.

18 We adopted some recommendations at our
19 last meeting from the Health Care Practice Health
20 Information Communication Exchange and Health
21 Information Protection Taskforces. Some of them were
22 in regard to the variation and scope of practice

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1 definition, license and the practice of ethics. Some
2 related to publicly funded health programs like
3 Medicaid, public health and state employee plans.
4 Our feeling is that if we focus on those publicly
5 funded programs they can have an impact on
6 accelerating the development of electronic health
7 information exchanges--obviously, a lot of insured
8 through public programs that's a good place to begin
9 our attention. We thought that state privacy laws in
10 variations around the country in state content. We
11 received an overview of state activities on health
12 information exchanges, including various legislative
13 approaches used to finance those efforts. We marked
14 the conclusion of a year of work of the Alliance and
15 look forward to the second year.

16 We've established targets for two new

17 taskforces. We'll identify issues for them to
18 examine. We decided to shape a new piece of work
19 focused on sustainability of the health information
20 exchange. Since our last meeting the two new
21 taskforces has convened and the University of
22 Massachusetts Medical School Center for Health Policy

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1 and Research has produced some initial findings on
2 different institutional arrangement models that
3 enable financing, oversight and accountability for
4 exchanges. We'll hear a presentation on that in just
5 a few minutes.

6 As we always do, I wanted to call the roll
7 so we know who is here and we'll have this for the
8 record. Some other members of the Alliance are not
9 with us today as well. General Carter is here.
10 Commissioner Cline I don't see yet?

11 (No response.)

12 GOVERNOR DOUGLAS: Assemblyman Conaway is
13 here. Mr. DeVore is here. Governor Geringer is
14 here. Representative Harrell is here. Senator Moore
15 is here. General Myers is not, I guess. Mr. Palmer
16 is here. Mr. Praeger is not with us. Ms. Pritts is
17 here. Dr. Ruffin is not. Mr. Sensor is not. Dr.
18 Sundwall is. Representative Svedjan is here. Dr.
19 Tuckson is here and Govern Vilsack is not, but we're
20 expecting a couple of other members. I'm sure we'll
21 make a note for the record when and if they arrive.

22 SENATOR MOORE: I hope you noticed there

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1 are four members of the legislature here and only one
2 governor.

3 (Laughter.)

4 SENATOR MOORE: I wonder if there was
5 anything subtle about putting Assemblyman Conaway
6 next to an attorney general.

7 (Laughter.)

8 GOVERNOR DOUGLAS: I don't know. Maybe
9 there was something subconscious in Kathleen's
10 arrangement of the table.

11 GOVERNOR GERINGER: I'd offer to the good
12 senator that we believe in the Book of Acts, not the
13 Book of Numbers.

14 (Laughter.)

15 GOVERNOR DOUGLAS: It's a rough crowd, but
16 reinforcements are arriving, Jim.

17 DR. SUNDWALL: Mr. Chairman, one question
18 on membership. I've had the occasion to speak with
19 Dr. Ruffin. He's resigning from his current
20 position, but is he going to continue with the
21 Alliance?

22 MS. NOLAN: He hasn't made that decision.

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1 He's moved to the Virginia Commonwealth University, I
2 believe. We'll have to take a look at that because
3 he was representing what would have been for this

4 group the technology industry. So we're going to
5 look at that just to be sure. We didn't have time to
6 do that in time for this meeting or to have that
7 discussion.

8 GOVERNOR DOUGLAS: Thanks for raising that
9 point. We'll check with him. Reinforcements--
10 Governor Vilsack, we were just giving a little brief
11 about the relative participation of legislative and
12 executive branch folks here. So we welcome you to
13 the meeting of the Alliance.

14 Let's talk a little bit about today's
15 agenda. We're going to review new e-Prescribing
16 language that our staff has prepared based on our
17 deliberations at the last meeting. If the Alliance
18 members agree, this will be the basis of our
19 recommendations to the states to adopt a goal for
20 achieving widespread adoption and use of e-
21 Prescribing. We have Kate Berry with SureScripts
22 here with us this morning; Tom Groom, RxHub to

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1 provide some feedback on our e-Prescribing agenda to
2 keep us informed of other relevant models or best
3 practices that we might want to consider as we move
4 forward. So we welcome you. We're going to hear
5 from Shaun Alfreds and Jay Himmelstein from the
6 University of Massachusetts. That's the entity, as I
7 mentioned, that's been working on findings on how
8 states might play a role in supporting and ensuring
9 accountability for public investments and protecting

10 consumer information in light of the emerging
11 electronic health information exchange industry.

12 We're going to hear from the Public
13 Programs Implementation Taskforce. On the agenda
14 today, they're going to present their first set of
15 recommendations on strategies and consider on voting
16 on health IT adoption and use. And hopefully, we'll
17 get some lunch and then after the break we'll hear
18 from the Office of the National Coordinator and LMI
19 Consulting. They've been teaming with the Brookings
20 Institution. They've received a contract from the
21 ONC to design and establish the AHIC's successor,
22 which we're calling AHIC 2.0, and tell us what we can

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1 expect from that transition. We'll going to hear
2 from Joel White, the executive director of the Health
3 IT Now Coalition and at the end of the day we'll
4 review our next steps, including identifying any
5 issues and priorities that we haven't talked about
6 yet that might be priorities in states on health IT
7 and health information exchange.

8 That's what we have planned for today.
9 Any questions about the agenda? Does that sound okay
10 to everyone?

11 (No response.)

12 GOVERNOR DOUGLAS: We'll forge ahead and
13 see where the day brings us. I want to welcome Ms.
14 Berry and Mr. Groom to the Alliance meeting. They're
15 here to share information, as I mentioned, on the

16 current environment and best practices with regard to
17 electronic prescribing.

18 Kate Berry is Senior Vice President of
19 Business Development and Alliances for SureScripts.
20 She's responsible for working widely with a wide
21 range of stakeholders and communities to build
22 awareness and support from proving the prescribing

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1 process and adopting electronic prescribing. She is
2 responsible for managing relationships with
3 physicians technology companies that are connected to
4 SureScripts to accelerate the adoption and optimal
5 use of electronic prescribing, including
6 understanding change management, workflow
7 integration, physician deployment, physician pharmacy
8 communications and connectivity best practices--a lot
9 of challenges for Ms. Berry, but we're delighted to
10 have you with us to share your experience and we hope
11 give us some thoughts on how we might move forward.

12 Mr. Groom is Senior Vice President of
13 Business Development for RxHub. His responsibilities
14 include business development, marketing and
15 communications as well as federal affairs. He also
16 provides advisory and leadership roles to e-
17 Prescribing initiatives throughout the country such
18 as Southeast Michigan Initiative or SEMI and E-
19 Prescribe Florida. This is a great opportunity for
20 us to hear from two experienced individuals in the
21 area of our focus and interest, and we welcome you to

22 this meeting of the Alliance. Thank you for being

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1 with us.