

(4) Outside involvement

The HIT Policy Committee shall ensure an opportunity for the participation in activities of the Committee of outside advisors, including individuals with expertise in the development of standards for the electronic exchange and use of health information, including in the areas of health information privacy and security.

(5) Balance among sectors

In developing the procedures for conducting the activities of the HIT Standards Committee, the HIT Standards Committee shall act to ensure a balance among various sectors of the health care system so that no single sector unduly influences the actions of the HIT Standards Committee.

(6) Assistance

For the purposes of carrying out this section, the Secretary may provide or ensure that financial assistance is provided by the HIT Standards Committee to defray in whole or in part any membership fees or dues charged by such Committee to those consumer advocacy groups and not for profit entities that work in the public interest as a part of their mission.

(d) Application of FACA

The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.), other than section 14, shall apply to the HIT Standards Committee.

(e) Publication

The Secretary shall provide for publication in the Federal Register and the posting on the Internet website of the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology of all recommendations made by the HIT Standards Committee under this section.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title XXX, §3003, as added Pub. L. 111-5, div. A, title XIII, §13101, Feb. 17, 2009, 123 Stat. 238.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Federal Advisory Committee Act, referred to in subsec. (d), is Pub. L. 92-463, Oct. 6, 1972, 86 Stat. 770, which is set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

§ 300jj-14. Process for adoption of endorsed recommendations; adoption of initial set of standards, implementation specifications, and certification criteria**(a) Process for adoption of endorsed recommendations****(1) Review of endorsed standards, implementation specifications, and certification criteria**

Not later than 90 days after the date of receipt of standards, implementation specifications, or certification criteria endorsed under section 300jj-11(c) of this title, the Secretary, in consultation with representatives of other relevant Federal agencies, shall jointly review such standards, implementation specifications, or certification criteria and shall determine whether or not to propose adoption of such standards, implementation specifications, or certification criteria.

(2) Determination to adopt standards, implementation specifications, and certification criteria

If the Secretary determines—

(A) to propose adoption of any grouping of such standards, implementation specifications, or certification criteria, the Secretary shall, by regulation under section 553 of title 5, determine whether or not to adopt such grouping of standards, implementation specifications, or certification criteria; or

(B) not to propose adoption of any grouping of standards, implementation specifications, or certification criteria, the Secretary shall notify the National Coordinator and the HIT Standards Committee in writing of such determination and the reasons for not proposing the adoption of such recommendation.

(3) Publication

The Secretary shall provide for publication in the Federal Register of all determinations made by the Secretary under paragraph (1).

(b) Adoption of standards, implementation specifications, and certification criteria**(1) In general**

Not later than December 31, 2009, the Secretary shall, through the rulemaking process consistent with subsection (a)(2)(A), adopt an initial set of standards, implementation specifications, and certification criteria for the areas required for consideration under section 300jj-12(b)(2)(B) of this title. The rulemaking for the initial set of standards, implementation specifications, and certification criteria may be issued on an interim, final basis.

(2) Application of current standards, implementation specifications, and certification criteria

The standards, implementation specifications, and certification criteria adopted before February 17, 2009, through the process existing through the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology may be applied towards meeting the requirement of paragraph (1).

(3) Subsequent standards activity

The Secretary shall adopt additional standards, implementation specifications, and certification criteria as necessary and consistent with the schedule published under section 300jj-13(b)(2)¹ of this title.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title XXX, §3004, as added Pub. L. 111-5, div. A, title XIII, §13101, Feb. 17, 2009, 123 Stat. 240.)

§ 300jj-15. Application and use of adopted standards and implementation specifications by Federal agencies

For requirements relating to the application and use by Federal agencies of the standards and implementation specifications adopted under section 300jj-14 of this title, see section 17901 of this title.

¹So in original. Probably should be a reference to section 300jj-13(b)(3).

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title XXX, §3005, as added Pub. L. 111-5, div. A, title XIII, §13101, Feb. 17, 2009, 123 Stat. 241.)

§ 300jj-16. Voluntary application and use of adopted standards and implementation specifications by private entities

(a) In general

Except as provided under section 13112 of the HITECH Act [42 U.S.C. 17902], nothing in such Act or in the amendments made by such Act shall be construed—

(1) to require a private entity to adopt or comply with a standard or implementation specification adopted under section 300jj-14 of this title; or

(2) to provide a Federal agency authority, other than the authority such agency may have under other provisions of law, to require a private entity to comply with such a standard or implementation specification.

(b) Rule of construction

Nothing in this part shall be construed to require that a private entity that enters into a contract with the Federal Government apply or use the standards and implementation specifications adopted under section 300jj-14 of this title with respect to activities not related to the contract.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title XXX, §3006, as added Pub. L. 111-5, div. A, title XIII, §13101, Feb. 17, 2009, 123 Stat. 241.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The HITECH Act, referred to in subsec. (a), is title XIII of div. A and title IV of div. B of Pub. L. 111-5, Feb. 17, 2009, 123 Stat. 226, 467, also known as the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 2009 Amendment note set out under section 201 of this title and Tables.

§ 300jj-17. Federal health information technology

(a) In general

The National Coordinator shall support the development and routine updating of qualified electronic health record technology (as defined in section 300jj of this title) consistent with subsections (b) and (c) and make available such qualified electronic health record technology unless the Secretary determines through an assessment that the needs and demands of providers are being substantially and adequately met through the marketplace.

(b) Certification

In making such electronic health record technology publicly available, the National Coordinator shall ensure that the qualified electronic health record technology described in subsection (a) is certified under the program developed under section 300jj-11(c)(3) of this title to be in compliance with applicable standards adopted under section 300jj-13(a) of this title.

(c) Authorization to charge a nominal fee

The National Coordinator may impose a nominal fee for the adoption by a health care provider of the health information technology system developed or approved under subsection¹ (a)

and (b). Such fee shall take into account the financial circumstances of smaller providers, low income providers, and providers located in rural or other medically underserved areas.

(d) Rule of construction

Nothing in this section shall be construed to require that a private or government entity adopt or use the technology provided under this section.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title XXX, §3007, as added Pub. L. 111-5, div. A, title XIII, §13101, Feb. 17, 2009, 123 Stat. 241.)

§ 300jj-18. Transitions

(a) ONCHIT

To the extent consistent with section 300jj-11 of this title, all functions, personnel, assets, liabilities, and administrative actions applicable to the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology appointed under Executive Order No. 13335 or the Office of such National Coordinator on the date before February 17, 2009, shall be transferred to the National Coordinator appointed under section 300jj-11(a) of this title and the Office of such National Coordinator as of February 17, 2009.

(b) National eHealth Collaborative

Nothing in sections¹ 300jj-12 or 300jj-13 of this title or this subsection shall be construed as prohibiting the AHIC Successor, Inc. doing business as the National eHealth Collaborative from modifying its charter, duties, membership, and any other structure or function required to be consistent with section² 300jj-12 and 300jj-13 of this title so as to allow the Secretary to recognize such AHIC Successor, Inc. as the HIT Policy Committee or the HIT Standards Committee.

(c) Consistency of recommendations

In carrying out section 300jj-13(b)(1)(A) of this title, until recommendations are made by the HIT Policy Committee, recommendations of the HIT Standards Committee shall be consistent with the most recent recommendations made by such AHIC Successor, Inc.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title XXX, §3008, as added Pub. L. 111-5, div. A, title XIII, §13101, Feb. 17, 2009, 123 Stat. 241.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Executive Order No. 13335, referred to in subsec. (a), is set out as a note under section 300u of this title.

§ 300jj-19. Miscellaneous provisions

(a) Relation to HIPAA privacy and security law

(1) In general

With respect to the relation of this subchapter to HIPAA privacy and security law:

(A) This subchapter may not be construed as having any effect on the authorities of the Secretary under HIPAA privacy and security law.

(B) The purposes of this subchapter include ensuring that the health information technology standards and implementation

¹ So in original. Probably should be "subsections".

¹ So in original. Probably should be "section".

² So in original. Probably should be "sections".