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STEVEN L. BESHEAR  
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER

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TREY GRAYSON  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
BY R. Adler

2009-770  
August 14, 2009

Secretary of State  
Frankfort  
Kentucky

**RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF ELECTRONIC HEALTH INFORMATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Commonwealth of Kentucky has always promoted effective and efficient management of state government operations; and

**WHEREAS**, improved efficiency and economy will result from the establishment of an organizational entity that coordinates initiatives related to electronic health information technology on behalf of the Commonwealth; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cabinet for Health and Family Services houses a number of health and health-related programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Kentucky E-Health Network Board is attached to, and staffed by, the Cabinet for Health and Family Services and the E-Health Board is a statutory advisory board charged with providing leadership in the redesign of the health care delivery system using information technology to ensure that all Kentuckians receive care that is safe, effective, patient-centered, timely, efficient, and equitable; and

**WHEREAS**, with the passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, new federal emphasis is being placed on electronic health technology as a means of improving patient care, reducing medical errors and making more efficient use of health care dollars by reducing redundant and duplicative services; and, the Recovery Act will provide substantial financial resources to states for planning, deployment and use of health information exchange:

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Steven L. Beshear, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and KRS 12.028, do hereby Order and Direct the following organizational changes within the Cabinet for Health and Family Services:



STEVEN L. BESHEAR  
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER

2009-770  
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Secretary of State  
Frankfort  
Kentucky

- I. Governor's Office of Electronic Health Information
  - A. The Governor's Office of Electronic Health Information is hereby created and established. The Governor's Office of Electronic Health Information shall be headed by an executive director appointed by the Secretary of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services pursuant to KRS 12.050. The Office shall be composed of such organizational entities as deemed appropriate by the Secretary of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services and set forth by Administrative Order.
- II. The Cabinet for Health and Family Services, the Finance and Administration Cabinet, Office of State Budget Director, and the Personnel Cabinet shall take all necessary action to effectuate this Order.

This Order is effective August 16, 2009.

  
STEVEN L. BESHEAR, GOVERNOR  
Commonwealth of Kentucky

  
TREY GRAYSON  
Secretary of State

## REORGANIZATION PLAN

### **Summary of Executive Order Creating the Office of Electronic Health Information**

The Cabinet for Health & Family Services (CHFS) is seeking to create an Office of Electronic Health Information.

The Cabinet applied for, and in February 2007 received, a Medicaid Transformation Grant totaling \$4.9 million. A Request for Proposals was issued in December 2008. Numerous proposals were received and the evaluation process is nearing completion. The primary components that would be funded with the Transformation Grant include the following electronic technology components: master patient/person index (MPI), record locator service (RLS), security, logging and audits and alerts.

The Cabinet for Health and Family Services also staffs the Kentucky E-Health Network Board, a statutory board charged with providing leadership in the redesign of the health care delivery system using information technology to ensure that all Kentuckians receive care that is safe, effective, patient-centered, timely, efficient, and equitable.

With the passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, new emphasis from the federal level is being placed on electronic health technology as a means of improving patient care, reducing medical errors and making more efficient use of health care dollars by reducing redundant and duplicative services. ARRA provides substantial resources for planning, deployment and use of electronic health technology. It sets standards for health information technology and exchange and requires the development of criteria for certification of electronic health records (EHRs). ARRA expands the role of states in fostering health information exchange and the adoption of Electronic Health Records (EHR). This goal is to be achieved through financial incentives, education, training and a call to states to lead and coordinate actions. States are awaiting federal guidance from the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC). Once that guidance is received, considerable work will be required for states in a relatively short period to apply for and receive ARRA e-health technology funding.

Because of the number of health and health-related programs housed in the Cabinet for Health and Family Services and because of efforts currently underway with regard to the Medicaid Transformation Grant, this Cabinet has been designated the lead electronic health information technology efforts.

In order to manage day-to-day work and the increased activity levels that will accompany ARRA application and funding processes, the Office of Electronic Health Information is being created. It will reside in the Administration and Program Support appropriation unit of the Cabinet, reporting directly to the Secretary of the Cabinet.