

1 **SEC. 713. ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORDS OF THE DEPART-**
2 **MENT OF DEFENSE AND THE DEPARTMENT**
3 **OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

4 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
5 gress that—

6 (1) the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary
7 of Veterans Affairs have failed to implement a solu-
8 tion that allows for seamless electronic sharing of
9 medical health care data; and

10 (2) despite the significant amount of read-only
11 information shared between the Department of De-
12 fense and Department of Veterans Affairs, most of
13 the information shared as of the date of the enact-
14 ment of this Act is not standardized or available in
15 real time to support all clinical decisions.

16 (b) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary of Defense
17 and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs—

18 (1) shall each ensure that the electronic health
19 record systems of the Department of Defense and
20 the Department of Veterans Affairs are interoper-
21 able with an integrated display of data, or a single
22 electronic health record, by complying with the na-
23 tional standards and architectural requirements
24 identified by the Interagency Program Office of the
25 Departments (in this section referred to as the “Of-
26 fice”), in collaboration with the Office of the Na-

1 tional Coordinator for Health Information Tech-
2 nology of the Department of Health and Human
3 Services; and

4 (2) shall each deploy modernized electronic
5 health record software supporting clinicians of the
6 Departments by no later than December 31, 2016,
7 while ensuring continued support and compatibility
8 with the interoperability platform and full stand-
9 ards-based interoperability.

10 (c) DESIGN PRINCIPLES.—The interoperable elec-
11 tronic health records with integrated display of data, or
12 a single electronic health record, established under sub-
13 section (b) shall adhere to the following principles:

14 (1) To the extent practicable, efforts to estab-
15 lish such records shall be based on objectives, activi-
16 ties, and milestones established by the Joint Execu-
17 tive Committee Joint Strategic Plan Fiscal Years
18 2013–2015, as well as future addendums or revi-
19 sions.

20 (2) Transition the current data exchanges be-
21 tween the Departments and private sector health
22 care providers where practical to modern, open-ar-
23 chitecture frameworks that use computable data
24 mapped to national standards to make data available

1 for determining medical trends and for enhanced cli-
2 nician decision support.

3 (3) Principles with respect to open architecture
4 standards, including—

5 (A) adoption of national data standards;

6 (B) if such national standards do not exist
7 as of the date on which the record is being es-
8 tablished, adoption of the articulation of data of
9 the Health Data Dictionary until such national
10 standards are established;

11 (C) use of enterprise investment strategies
12 that maximize the use of commercial best prac-
13 tices to ensure robust competition and best
14 value;

15 (D) aggressive life-cycle sustainment plan-
16 ning that uses proven technology insertion
17 strategies and product upgrade techniques;

18 (E) enforcement of system design trans-
19 parency, continuous design disclosure and im-
20 provement, and peer reviews that align with the
21 requirements of the Federal Acquisition Regula-
22 tion; and

23 (F) strategies for data management rights
24 to ensure a level competitive playing field and

1 access to alternative solutions and sources
2 across the life-cycle of the programs.

3 (4) By the point of deployment, such record
4 must be at a generation 3 level or better for a health
5 information technology system.

6 (5) To the extent the Secretaries consider fea-
7 sible and advisable, principles with respect to—

8 (A) the creation of a health data authori-
9 tative source by the Department of Defense and
10 the Department of Veterans Affairs that can be
11 accessed by multiple providers and standardizes
12 the input of new medical information;

13 (B) the ability of patients of both the De-
14 partment of Defense and the Department of
15 Veterans Affairs to download, or otherwise re-
16 ceive electronically, the medical records of the
17 patient; and

18 (C) the feasibility of establishing a secure,
19 remote, network-accessible computer storage
20 system to provide members of the Armed
21 Forces and veterans the ability to upload the
22 health care records of the member or veteran if
23 the member or veteran elects to do so and allow
24 medical providers of the Department of Defense
25 and the Department of Veterans Affairs to ac-

1 cess such records in the course of providing
2 care to the member or veteran.

3 (d) PROGRAMS PLAN.—Not later than January 31,
4 2014, the Secretaries shall prepare and brief the appro-
5 priate congressional committees with a detailed programs
6 plan for the oversight and execution of the interoperable
7 electronic health records with an integrated display of
8 data, or a single electronic health record, established
9 under subsection (b). This briefing and supporting docu-
10 mentation shall include—

11 (1) programs objectives;

12 (2) organization;

13 (3) responsibilities of the Departments;

14 (4) technical objectives and design principles;

15 (5) milestones, including a schedule for the de-
16 velopment, acquisition, or industry competitions for
17 capabilities needed to satisfy the technical system re-
18 quirements;

19 (6) data standards being adopted by the pro-
20 grams;

21 (7) outcome-based metrics proposed to measure
22 the performance and effectiveness of the programs;
23 and

24 (8) the level of funding for fiscal years 2014
25 through 2017.

1 (e) LIMITATION ON FUNDS.—Not more than 25 per-
2 cent of the amounts authorized to be appropriated by this
3 Act or otherwise made available for development, procure-
4 ment, modernization, or enhancement of the interoperable
5 electronic health records with an integrated display of
6 data, or a single electronic health record, established
7 under subsection (b) for the Department of Defense or
8 the Department of Veterans Affairs may be obligated or
9 expended until the date on which the Secretaries brief the
10 appropriate congressional committees of the programs
11 plan under subsection (d).

12 (f) REPORTING.—

13 (1) QUARTERLY REPORTING.—On a quarterly
14 basis, the Secretaries shall submit to the appropriate
15 congressional committees a detailed financial sum-
16 mary.

17 (2) NOTIFICATION.—The Secretary of Defense
18 and Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to
19 the appropriate congressional committees written no-
20 tification prior to obligating funds for any contract
21 or task order for electronic health record system
22 modernization efforts that is in excess of
23 \$5,000,000.

24 (g) REQUIREMENTS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than October 1,
2 2014, all health care data contained in the Depart-
3 ment of Defense AHLTA and the Department of
4 Veterans Affairs VistA systems shall be computable
5 in real time and comply with the existing national
6 data standards and have a process in place to ensure
7 data is standardized as national standards continue
8 to evolve. On a quarterly basis, the Secretaries shall
9 submit to the appropriate congressional committees
10 updates on the progress of data sharing.

11 (2) CERTIFICATION.—At such time as the oper-
12 ational capability described in subsection (b)(1) is
13 achieved, the Secretaries shall jointly certify to the
14 appropriate congressional committees that the Secre-
15 taries have complied with such data standards de-
16 scribed in paragraph (1).

17 (3) RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL.—The Secretaries
18 shall each identify a senior official to be responsible
19 for the modern platforms supporting an interoper-
20 able electronic health record with an integrated dis-
21 play of data, or a single electronic health record, es-
22 tablished under subsection (b). The Secretaries shall
23 also each identify a senior official to be responsible
24 for modernizing the electronic health record software
25 of the respective Department. Such official shall

1 have included within their performance evaluation
2 performance metrics related to the execution of the
3 responsibilities under this paragraph. Not later than
4 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,
5 each Secretary shall submit to the appropriate con-
6 gressional committees the name of each senior offi-
7 cial selected under this paragraph.

8 (4) COMPTROLLER GENERAL ASSESSMENT.—If
9 both Secretaries do not meet the requirements under
10 paragraph (1), the Comptroller General of the
11 United States shall submit to the appropriate con-
12 gressional committees an assessment of the perform-
13 ance of the compliance of both Secretaries of such
14 requirements.

15 (h) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—

16 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 60 days
17 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
18 retaries shall jointly establish an executive com-
19 mittee to support the development and validation of
20 adopted standards, required architectural platforms
21 and structure, and the capacity to enforce such
22 standards, platforms, and structure as the Secre-
23 taries execute requirements and develop pro-
24 grammatic assessment as needed by the Secretaries
25 to ensure interoperable electronic health records with

1 an integrated display of data, or a single electronic
2 health record, are established pursuant to the re-
3 quirements of subsection (b). The Executive Com-
4 mittee shall annually certify to the appropriate con-
5 gressional committees that such record meets the
6 definition of “integrated” as specified in subsection
7 (k)(4).

8 (2) MEMBERSHIP.—The Executive Committee
9 established under paragraph (1) shall consist of not
10 more than 6 members, appointed by the Secretaries
11 as follows:

12 (A) Two co-chairs, one appointed by each
13 of the Secretaries.

14 (B) One member from the technical com-
15 munity of the Department of Defense appointed
16 by the Secretary of Defense.

17 (C) One member from the technical com-
18 munity of the Department of Veterans Affairs
19 appointed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

20 (D) One member from the clinical commu-
21 nity of the Department of Defense appointed by
22 the Secretary of Defense.

23 (E) One member from the clinical commu-
24 nity of the Department of Veterans Affairs ap-
25 pointed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

1 (3) REPORTING.—Not later than June 1, 2014,
2 and on a quarterly basis thereafter, the Executive
3 Committee shall submit to the appropriate congressional
4 committees a report on the activities of the
5 Committee.

6 (i) INDEPENDENT REVIEW.—The Secretary of De-
7 fense shall request the Defense Science Board to conduct
8 an annual review of the progress of the Secretary toward
9 achieving the requirements in paragraphs (1) and (2) of
10 subsection (b). The Defense Science Board shall submit
11 to the Secretary a report of the findings of the review.
12 Not later than 30 days after receiving the report, the Sec-
13 retary shall submit to the appropriate congressional com-
14 mittees the report with any comments considered appro-
15 priate by the Secretary.

16 (j) DEADLINE FOR COMPLETION OF IMPLEMENTA-
17 TION OF THE HEALTHCARE ARTIFACT AND IMAGE MAN-
18 AGEMENT SOLUTION PROGRAM.—

19 (1) DEADLINE.—The Secretary of Defense shall
20 complete the implementation of the Healthcare Arti-
21 fact and Image Management Solution program of
22 the Department of Defense by not later than the
23 date that is 180 days after the date of the enact-
24 ment of this Act.

1 (2) REPORT.—Upon completion of the imple-
2 mentation of the Healthcare Artifact and Image
3 Management Solution program, the Secretary shall
4 submit to the appropriate congressional committees
5 a report describing the extent of the interoperability
6 between the Healthcare Artifact and Image Manage-
7 ment Solution program and the Veterans Benefits
8 Management System of the Department of Veterans
9 Affairs.

10 (k) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

11 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
12 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
13 mittees” means—

14 (A) the congressional defense committees;
15 and

16 (B) the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of
17 the Senate and the House of Representatives.

18 (2) GENERATION 3.—The term “generation 3”
19 means, with respect to an electronic health system,
20 a system that has the technical capability to bring
21 evidence-based medicine to the point of care and
22 provide functionality for multiple care venues.

23 (3) INTEROPERABLE.—The term “interoper-
24 able” refers to the ability of different electronic
25 health records systems or software to meaningfully

1 exchange information in real time and provide useful
2 results to one or more systems.

3 (4) INTEGRATED.—The term “integrated” re-
4 fers to the integration of health data from the De-
5 partment of Defense and the Department of Vet-
6 erans Affairs and outside providers to provide clini-
7 cians with a comprehensive medical record that al-
8 lows data existing on disparate systems to be shared
9 or accessed across functional or system boundaries
10 in order to make the most informed decisions when
11 treating patients.

12 **Subtitle C—Reports and Other** 13 **Matters**

14 **SEC. 721. DISPLAY OF BUDGET INFORMATION FOR EMBED-** 15 **DED MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS OF THE** 16 **RESERVE COMPONENTS.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 9 of title 10, United
18 States Code, is amended by adding after section 236, as
19 added by section 141 of this Act, the following new sec-
20 tion:

21 **“§ 237. Embedded mental health providers of the re-** 22 **serve components: display of budget in-** 23 **formation**

24 “The Secretary of Defense shall submit to Congress,
25 as a part of the documentation that supports the Presi-