

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

BOB RILEY  
GOVERNOR



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## STATE OF ALABAMA

October 16, 2009

David Blumenthal, M.D., M.P.P.  
National Coordinator for Health Information Technology  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20201-0007

Dear Dr. Blumenthal:

Since January 2007, the Alabama Medicaid Agency, in collaboration with its stakeholder committee, has established a basic health information exchange in Alabama through the Medicaid transformation grant called *Together for Quality*. The Stakeholder Committee consists of all provider groups, consumer groups and advocates of the poor and uninsured. This committee has been an integral part of our success in developing an electronic health record, intensive case management services and the first step toward multi-agency interoperability. Medicaid is best positioned to initially coordinate Alabama's efforts to develop a strategic operational plan.

Therefore, I designate as the State of Alabama's official state designated entity for the State Grants to Promote Health Information Technology Program:

Alabama Medicaid Agency  
Carol Steckel, Commissioner  
501 Dexter Avenue  
PO Box 5624  
Montgomery, AL 36103-5624  
334-242-5600 (phone) 334-242-0556 (fax)

I also appoint Margaret McKenzie in the Office of the Governor as the interim state health information technology coordinator. Ms. McKenzie serves as my health and human services policy advisor and will be the primary point of contact on this project until a permanent coordinator can be hired.

Margaret McKenzie  
600 Dexter Ave, Ste NB-04  
Montgomery, AL 36130  
334-242-7116 (phone) 334-353-3012 (fax)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Riley".

Bob Riley  
Governor

BR/mm