

REFERENCE TITLE: hospital interconnectivity; appropriation

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-sixth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2024

SB 1178

Introduced by
Senator Gowan

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 41-703.01, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; REPEALING LAWS 2022,
CHAPTER 314, SECTION 6; APPROPRIATING MONIES; RELATING TO RURAL HOSPITALS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 41-703.01, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended
3 to read:

4 41-703.01. Competitive grant program; technology solution;
5 patient continuity of care; hospital
6 interconnectivity; annual report; definitions

7 A. The department shall administer a ~~three-year~~ competitive grant
8 program that provides **A SINGLE COMPANY THAT LICENSES** an interoperability
9 software technology solution to support **ACUTE CARE FOR** rural hospitals,
10 health care providers and ~~urban~~ trauma centers **WITH RESOURCES** to further
11 treatment **AND** care coordination with a focus on reducing public and
12 private health care costs and unnecessary transportation costs. **THE GRANT**
13 **RECIPIENT MAY NOT USE A THIRD-PARTY VENDOR TO COMPLY WITH ANY OF THE GRANT**
14 **PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.** The department shall award the ~~first~~ grant under
15 this program not later than December 31, ~~2022~~ 2024.

16 B. The Arizona health care cost containment system shall work with
17 the department to supplement the grant monies by identifying and applying
18 to receive federal matching monies.

19 C. The grant program shall enable the implementation of ~~an~~ **A SINGLE**
20 **LICENSED** interoperability software technology solution that is shared by
21 hospitals and health care providers to benefit patients before and after a
22 patient is discharged from the provider's care **AND THAT IS ACCESSIBLE TO**
23 **CURRENT AND FUTURE PROVIDERS VIA A MOBILE, NATIVE SMARTPHONE APPLICATION.**

24 D. The software shall be made available to rural hospitals, health
25 care providers and ~~urban~~ trauma centers that wish to participate by
26 enabling a hospital's electronic medical records system to interface with
27 **INTEROPERABILITY TECHNOLOGY AND** other electronic medical records systems
28 and providers to promote **MOBILE** connectivity between hospital systems and
29 facilitate increased communication between hospital staff and providers
30 that use different or distinctive online **AND MOBILE** platforms and
31 information systems when treating **ACUTE** patients. The department shall
32 award ~~grants~~ **ONE GRANT** for an interoperability software technology
33 solution that, at a minimum:

34 1. Complies with the health insurance portability and
35 accountability act privacy standards (45 Code of Federal Regulations part
36 160 and part 164, subpart E).

37 2. Captures and forwards clinical data, including laboratory
38 results and images, and provides synchronous patient clinical data to
39 health care providers regardless of geographic location.

40 3. Provides a synchronous data exchange that is not batched or
41 delayed, at the point the clinical data is captured and available in the
42 hospital's electronic record system.

43 4. Is capable of providing proactive alerts to health care
44 providers **ON THEIR SMARTPHONES OR A SMART DEVICE.**

1 5. Allows both synchronous and asynchronous communication VIA A
2 NATIVE SMARTPHONE APPLICATION.

3 6. IS MOBILE AND CAN BE USED ON MULTIPLE ELECTRONIC DEVICES. THE
4 MOBILE TECHNOLOGY MUST INCLUDE, AT A MINIMUM, THE INDUSTRY STANDARD
5 BUILT-IN APPLICATION FOR THE TWO MOST POPULAR OPERATING SYSTEMS AND A
6 BUILT-IN APPLICATION AVAILABLE TO ALL USERS.

7 ~~6.~~ 7. Has patient-centric communication and is tracked with date
8 and time stamping.

9 ~~7.~~ 8. Is connected to the appropriate physician resources.

10 ~~8.~~ 9. Provides data to update cost reports to enhance emergency
11 triage and to treat and transport patients.

12 E. ~~Each~~ THE grant recipient shall demonstrate BOTH OF THE
13 FOLLOWING:

14 1. THAT ITS INTEROPERABILITY SOFTWARE TECHNOLOGY SOLUTION MEETS ALL
15 OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION D OF THIS SECTION AT LEAST THIRTY DAYS
16 BEFORE APPLYING FOR THE GRANT.

17 2. Proof of veteran employment.

18 F. THE INTEROPERABILITY SOFTWARE TECHNOLOGY SOLUTION LICENSE MUST
19 BE RENEWED ON AN ANNUAL BASIS.

20 ~~F.~~ G. For each year of the grant program, ~~each~~ THE grant recipient
21 shall provide to the department of administration a report that provides
22 metrics and quantifies cost and time savings for using an interoperable
23 software solution in health care that complies with the health insurance
24 portability and accountability act privacy standards (45 Code of Federal
25 Regulations part 160 and part 164, subpart E). On or before July 1 of
26 each fiscal year of the grant program, the department of administration in
27 coordination with the Arizona health care cost containment system shall
28 provide to the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of
29 representatives, the chairpersons of the health and human services
30 committees of the senate and the house of representatives and the
31 directors of the joint legislative budget committee and the governor's
32 office of strategic planning and budgeting a report on the allocation of
33 grant funding and a compiled analysis of the reports provided by the grant
34 recipients RECIPIENT.

35 ~~G.~~ H. For the purposes of this section:

36 1. "MOBILE" MEANS AVAILABLE TO END USERS ON A SMART DEVICE VIA A
37 NATIVE APPLICATION AND NOT AN INTERNET PAGE OR WEB PORTAL.

38 2. "NATIVE" MEANS AN APPLICATION THAT IS SPECIFICALLY DEVELOPED FOR
39 THE HARDWARE AND OPERATING SYSTEM THAT RUNS THE APPLICATION.

40 ~~I.~~ 3. "Rural" ~~mean~~ MEANS a county with a population of less than
41 nine hundred thousand persons.

42 ~~J.~~ 4. "Veteran employment" means a business organization that
43 employs an individual or has a company officer who served and who was
44 honorably discharged from or released under honorable conditions from
45 service in the UNITED STATES armed forces.

1 Sec. 2. Repeal
2 Laws 2022, chapter 314, section 6 is repealed.

3 Sec. 3. Appropriation; department of administration;
4 interoperability software technology solution
5 grant; exemption

6 A. The sum of \$12,000,000 is appropriated onetime from the state
7 general fund in fiscal year 2024-2025 to the department of administration
8 for an interoperability software technology solution grant pursuant to
9 section 41-703.01, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by this act.

10 B. The appropriation made in subsection A of this section is exempt
11 from the provisions of section 35-190, Arizona Revised Statutes, relating
12 to lapsing of appropriations.