

1 VERMONT MEDICAL SOCIETY  
2 RESOLUTION

3  
4 **Health Care Information Technology**

5  
6 *Adopted on October 20, 2007*

7  
8 WHEREAS, 70 percent of Vermont physicians do not have electronic health records  
9 systems;

10  
11 WHEREAS, the Vermont Health Information Technology Plan sets a goal of the  
12 majority of Vermont's physicians using electronic health records systems by 2011;

13  
14 WHEREAS, the cost of acquiring an electronic health record system is estimated at  
15 \$32,000<sup>1</sup> per physician, with an additional yearly cost of \$10,000<sup>1</sup>;

16  
17 WHEREAS, most independent physician practices lack the capital to acquire an  
18 electronic health record system;

19  
20 WHEREAS, successful implementation of an electronic health record system also  
21 involves clinical transformation, which can be time-consuming and costly;

22  
23 WHEREAS, a recent study indicates that only 11 percent of the savings from electronic  
24 health record system deployment accrue to the physician – the remainder goes to the  
25 payers through a reduction in unnecessary tests and more automated record handling;  
26 now therefore be it

27  
28 **RESOLVED, that the decision to purchase and use electronic health record**  
29 **technology should be voluntary and not mandatory; and be it further**

30  
31 **RESOLVED, that the insurers and payers who will benefit from the use of**  
32 **electronic health record systems shall provide adequate funding to assist**  
33 **physician practices in adopting and implementing electronic health record**  
34 **systems; and be it further**

35  
36 **RESOLVED, that the Vermont Medical Society urges the Vermont General**  
37 **Assembly to provide resources to Vermont Information Technology Leaders, Inc.,**  
38 **so that it may assist physicians with the technical support and clinical**  
39 **transformation necessary for implementation of electronic health records.**

---

<sup>1</sup> Cost estimate was developed by VITL and published in the Vermont Health Information Technology Plan.