



**TECHNET**  
THE VOICE OF THE  
INNOVATION ECONOMY

February 19, 2019

The Honorable Floyd Prozanski  
Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee  
Oregon Senate

**Re: SB 703 - Health Data**

Dear Chair Sen. Floyd Prozanski and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

*TechNet is the national, bipartisan network of over 80 technology companies that promotes the growth of the innovation economy by advocating a targeted policy agenda at the federal and 50 state level. TechNet's diverse membership includes dynamic American businesses ranging from startups to the most iconic companies on the planet and represents more than three million employees in the fields of information technology, e-commerce, clean energy, telecommunications, gig economy, sharing economy, venture capital, and finance.*

TechNet respectfully submits these comments in opposition to SB 703 which would prohibit the commercial sale of health information by certain organizations without authorization of the individual whose health information would be included. SB 703 could have significant, unintended impacts on the flow of anonymous, de-identified and HIPAA-compliant health information.

Unfortunately, the effect of SB 703 would not be the protection the privacy of personal information. Instead, this bill would create a demand for proprietary technology at the risk of significantly slowing the legitimate flow of de-identified vital and beneficial data. Additionally, it could drive up health care costs by requiring all current HIPAA-covered entities to purchase superfluous blockchain technology and seek consent to use information that doctors and patients need.

SB 703 would add cost and complexity in obtaining patient authorization at the point of care, as providers would need to capture the individual authorization in the electronic health record (EHR) before legitimately transferring the data. Any costs of technical changes to the EHR needed to comply with this process would be borne by providers, likely driving up overall health care costs for patients and slowing safe, legitimate transfer of data unnecessarily.

TechNet fears that this legislation, which purports to protect consumer privacy, will instead only result in a more expensive, convoluted, and burdened system for patients and doctors alike. Thank you in advance for your consideration on these matters, and please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

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