

RESOLUTION NO. 160

REQUESTING THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO ESTABLISH CRITERIA AND PRIORITIES REGARDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORDS IN ALBANY COUNTY

Introduced: 4/12/10

By Ms. McKnight, Messrs. Scavo and Clenahan:

WHEREAS, In recent years it has been recognized that an important advance for future health care is the development of electronic health records and health information exchange, and

WHEREAS, Health information exchange refers to the process of reliable and interoperable electronic health-related information sharing conducted in a manner that protects the confidentiality, privacy and security of the information, and

WHEREAS, Albany County has started moving towards this important area by becoming a member of the Healthcare Information Xchange New York (HIXNY) organization to work towards the transition to electronic health records by collaboratively working with HIXNY members to build the appropriate infrastructure for a health care exchange that protects patient privacy and securely delivers medication histories, allergies, lab results and treatment histories in a standardized protected paperless format, and

WHEREAS, Even though Albany County has taken the first steps to address this cutting edge exchange of information, much more work needs to be done, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the County Executive is hereby requested to continue to take steps towards electronic health records in Albany County by establishing criteria and priorities for the development of this vital sharing of information, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the County Executive is further requested to periodically report the progress made to the Legislature, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the County Legislature is directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to the appropriate County Officials.

Adopted by unanimous vote. 4/12/10