



The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act: Progress Report



House Appropriations Committee

- Appropriated \$2 billion to be invested in health IT and exchange infrastructure in a manner consistent with the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT's Strategic Plan
- Also provided capability to Social Security Administration, Indian Health Service, and Community Health Centers to spend portion of appropriated funds on health IT
- Marked up and reported out the health IT language on January 21st without any amendments
- No specific vote on the health IT provision, full package under consideration reported out by a vote of 35-22



House Energy and Commerce Committee

- Considered title IV of Division B of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act—known in the House as the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act—reviewing all sections except for areas under Ways and Means’ jurisdiction
- Marked up and reported out the HITECH Act by voice vote on January 24th with few amendments



House Ways and Means Committee

- Also considered the HITECH Act, but focused on the Medicare and Medicaid incentive sections
- Marked up and reported out the HITECH Act as part of a larger package of provisions by a vote of 24-13 on January 24th



House Rules Committee

- After all committees of jurisdiction marked up their pieces of the stimulus package, the Rules Committee released the official text of HR 1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, on January 26th



House Floor

- The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act was debated last night, and is scheduled for final debate and a floor vote today, January 28th
- If passed, will await Senate action before reconciliation must occur



Senate Finance Committee

- Released a Chairman's Mark of their language on January 23rd. Chairman's Mark covered Medicare and Medicaid sections of the health IT language. Rest of health IT language covered by Senate Appropriations language
- Held markup on January 27th, voted out package 14-9, with some modifications to health IT provisions



Senate Appropriations Committee

- Released highlights on January 23rd. Promised \$5 billion for health IT to jumpstart efforts to computerize health records to cut costs and reduce medical errors.
- Held markup on January 27th, asked that amendments be held for floor consideration
- Reported out the package on January 27th, language released today. Contains, among other items, privacy provisions that are nearly identical to those marked up in the House.



Senate HELP Committee

➤ Not holding markup.



Summary

- Stimulus language, including health IT, has cleared all relevant House and Senate committees (Senate HELP not holding markup)
- Now will be packaged as HR 1 and S 1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
- The House plans to vote on HR 1 today
- Senate held markups yesterday, may hold more behind-the-scenes negotiations before going to the floor



Next Steps

- House consideration and passage of HR 1
- Senate today releases marked up language from committees, combines all sections in S 1, its version of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
- Senate considers and votes on S 1
- Reconciliation occurs between HR 1 and S 1
- If reconciliation achieved, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act goes to the President's desk for signature