



## Health Innovation Alliance's Role as an Unyielding Watchdog on Interoperability & Information Blocking:

- **June 3, 2019** – HIA [submitted formal comments](#) to HHS calling on the agency to rescind the proposed information blocking rule, warning that “the policy approaches the administration has devised to end information blocking are fundamentally out of sync with marketplace innovation” and that exceptions to the proposed rule “are so vague and so broadly drafted they will produce a market worse than today’s status quo.” HIA sent separate comments [urging CMS](#) to clarify and adjust its accompanying interoperability proposal.
- **May 30, 2019** – HIA led a media availability featuring speakers from Allscripts, the American Academy of Ophthalmology, the Association of Clinical Research Organizations, and the Behavioral Health Information Technology Coalition calling for the withdrawal and reevaluation of the proposed information blocking rule. The event netted coverage in [Modern Healthcare](#), [Inside Health Policy](#), [Politico](#), [MedPage Today](#), and others.
- **May 6, 2019** – HIA Executive Director Joel White [spoke with Politico](#) on flaws in the recently proposed information blocking and interoperability rules, saying *“I think it would be easier, cleaner to junk it and start from square 1.”*
- **March 25, 2019** – [Issued statement](#) ahead of Senate HELP Committee hearing on patient access to healthcare data warning that proposed information blocking and interoperability rules are “in need of further reform.”
- **February 11, 2019** – [Responded to](#) long awaited release of proposed interoperability and information blocking rules, promising “We will review them to ensure they are an honest attempt to end the business practices and technology issues confounding interoperability ... If these rules do not achieve this end, we will be back.”
- **January 16, 2019** – Hosted a Congressional [briefing](#) alongside IBM entitled, *“As 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Turns Two, What’s Next for Interoperability in Healthcare?”*
- **December 17, 2018** – HIA issued a [press release](#) criticizing OMB for missing a deadline to complete review of the proposed interoperability rule.
- **December 12, 2018** - [Responded to](#) a Energy & Commerce Health Subcommittee hearing on implementation of the 21st Century Cures law, warning that *“The 90-day timeline for this review [of the interoperability rule] to be completed will be reached in mere days and, based on this week’s hearing, it appears the administration could be at risk of missing this critical deadline. We are putting OMB on notice that further delays to this rule would be wholly unacceptable.”*

- **September 8, 2018** - Published an [op-ed in STAT](#), warning that "More than 600 days after the enactment of the Cures Act, not a single regulation has been issued on information blocking" and criticizing the administration's "vague timeline that shows little urgency for combating this pressing threat to consumer safety and stumbling block to interoperability."
- **August 22, 2018** - Health Innovation Alliance [endorsed](#) a bipartisan amendment to the Labor-HHS funding bill for FY2019 requiring the administration to provide a progress report to Congress on its work implementing information blocking provisions of the Cures law.
- **August 15, 2018**- Provided a [response](#) to a request for information from the Health Care Innovation Caucus, in which the coalition urged lawmakers to work with the administration and "issue these critical [information blocking] regulations as soon as possible."
- **August 6, 2018** - Assembled more than a dozen cosigners on a [letter](#) to HHS and OIG criticizing delays in releasing information blocking regulations.
- **February 27, 2018** - Released a report with the Bipartisan Policy Center entitled, "[The Future Role of Government in Health IT and Digital Health](#)." The report called on the administration to "use its existing authority ... to ensure that information flows freely, without information blocking," adding that "As part of this work, applicable federal agencies, including the OIG, CMS, and ONC should enforce 21st Century Cures information blocking provisions."
- **August 29, 2017** - Led more than a dozen health IT organizations on a [sign-on letter](#) offering specific recommendations for eliminating the threat of information blocking, including calling for a proposed rule clarifying information blocking provisions in *Cures*.
- **July 25, 2017** – Health Innovation Alliance (then Health IT Now) hosted an information blocking summit with nearly two dozen stakeholder groups to discuss ways to most effectively engage in the effort against harmful information blocking practices.