

**eHealth Initiative's 2006
Connecting Communities Learning Forum
April 10, 2006
Washington D.C.**

**Track 5: Policy and Advocacy
Working with State Governors and Legislators:
Nuts and Bolts**

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Pressure for Legislation

- **Cost (Medicaid, public employee)**
- **Quality (safety and error, medical malpractice)**
- **Consumerism (transparency, P4P)**
- **Competition (industry or interstate)**
- **Common ground (standards, connection)**
- **Reform (aging population, access)**

Opportunity for Legislation

- **Budget pressure easing**
- **Federal grant and study opportunities**
- **Public health / Homeland Security**
- **Mobilized sector**
- **Convergence with quality/safety**

Obstacles to action: variations on distrust

- **High cost, uncertain benefit**
- **Complexity**
- **Lack of consensus**
- **Privacy and security concerns**

Local variables

- **Health and insurance sector engagement**
- **Business interest, consumer concern**
- **Perception of government: expertise, trust**
- **Strong leader or convener**
- **Prior investment, current market**

States wet their toes

- **E-Rx**
- **Electronic health data transmission or EHR**
- **Telehealth**
- **Studies/convening**
- **Agency mission**

State Legislation 2006

- **Commissions for study and action**
 - **Study/commission: at least 10 states**
 - **Designated agency: at least 4 state**
- **Defining Standards: at least 3**
 - **Privacy and breach legislation- 4**
 - **Hospital licensing requirement**
 - **Safety and error reporting – 2**
 - **EHR - 1**

State Legislation 2006

Financing

- P4P with Medicaid
- Revolving funds - 4
- State purchasing - 1
 - Corrections, chronic
- Create Fund, grants - 3
- Tax credit - 2
- Bonding - 1

State Legislation 2006

- **Services**
 - **State & local clinics and hospitals**
 - **Medical education requirements**
- **Pilots and demos**
 - **corrections**
 - **advanced directives**
 - **virtual monitoring**
 - **EMR for schedule drugs**

contact

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State Health Notes has a new look and a new location.
Best of all, it's free! Check it out at www.ncsl.org/shn
