

Cyber-Health IT Advisory Board Releases White Paper on Cybersecurity in Healthcare



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Document details how California companies can lead on cybersecurity and protecting patient data

Sacramento, Calif. – Today the Cyber-Health Information Technology Advisory Board, created in November 2017 by the Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) and the University of Southern-California (USC) Center for Body Computing, released a white paper titled, [“Cybersecurity in Healthcare: How California Businesses can Lead.”](#) The paper is a first step toward establishing cybersecurity best practices within the state to prevent potential exploitation of digital health care data.

The Cyber-Health Information Technology Advisory Board was created as part of an ongoing effort to support cybersecurity innovation and bolster advanced technology industries, and includes representatives from industry and cybersecurity education experts. Over the past 10 months, the advisory board has worked to help further identify, define and communicate the cyber risks versus benefits associated with health IT solutions. They have held industry board meetings and have endeavored to identify existing collaborative processes that can help enhance the overall cybersecurity position for healthcare technology, before developing pilot projects to address gaps and test solutions.

Addressing one of the advisory board’s key goals, the group developed a white paper that outlines both immediate collaborative opportunities and a long-term strategy to bolster cybersecurity for health IT and mobile health. Suggestions included training workforces in cybersecurity, educating patients about cyber literacy and developing standards for the ethical use of medical information.

“Cybersecurity is a core component of many of California’s growth industries, especially healthcare.” said Panorea Avdis, Director, Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development. “This paper is a testament to the state’s commitment to partnering with education and industry experts to ensure data is secure and protected.”

Crucially, the paper makes recommendations in the following areas:

- **Education**
- **Ethical Use of Data**
- **Public-Private Partnerships**
- **Research and Development**
- **Government Policy/Legislation**

Ultimately, the paper recognizes that the protection of digital health data and use of this data is paramount to realizing the promise of digital health. It provides a template for defining, growing and encouraging activities that should occur in tandem to motivate California healthcare company growth and digital innovation.

“Connected information technologies have the potential to significantly improve global health access and outcomes,” said Leslie Saxon, MD, founder and executive director of the USC Center for Body Computing and chair of the advisory board. “As California’s health care industry innovates new digital health technologies, it will need to put cybersecurity education and protections in place in order to create leading products that are safe and can be trusted.”

To read the full white paper, visit: [Cybersecurity in Healthcare: How California Business can Lead](#)

For more information visit: [Cyber-Health Information Technology Advisory Board](#)

For more information on GO-Biz efforts to develop and support advancements in cybersecurity, visit [GO-Biz Cybersecurity](#).

About GO-Biz

[GO-Biz](#) serves as California's lead entity for economic development and job creation efforts.

GO-Biz offers a range of services to business owners including: attraction, retention and expansion services, site selection, permit streamlining, clearing of regulatory hurdles, small business assistance, international trade development, assistance with state government, and much more.

About USC Center for Body Computing

The USC Center for Body Computing is the digital health innovation center for the Keck Medicine of USC medical enterprise. Collaborating with inventors, strategists, designers, investors and visionaries from health care, entertainment and technology, the USC CBC serves as a national leader on digital health and wearable technology. Founded in 2006 by Leslie Saxon, a trained USC cardiologist, the CBC was one of the nation's first academically-based centers to focus on digital health solutions. Dr. Saxon, an internationally renowned digital health guru has spoken at TEDMED, SXSW, WIRED international.