

May 16, 2007

The Honorable David Wu 2338 Rayburn Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Wu:

The American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) is pleased to offer its support for HR 1467, the "10,000 Trained by 2010 Act." This important legislation addresses an important issue facing our changing healthcare system: the development of a qualified health information workforce. A workforce trained in health information management and health informatics will help improve the quality, efficiency and coordination of our nation's healthcare system.

AHIMA is the premier association of over 51,000 health information management (HIM) professionals. Our members are dedicated to the effective management of personal health information needed to deliver quality healthcare to the public. Founded in 1928 to improve the quality of medical records, AHIMA is committed to advancing the HIM profession in an increasingly electronic and global environment through leadership in advocacy, education, certification, and lifelong learning.

Thank you for your untiring efforts on this important issue. AHIMA believes that it is critical that policies address a situation where the need for a health information specialist workforce is growing while the number of trained professionals is not keeping pace. HR 1467 addresses this issue through the establishment of a variety of grants that focus on research, education and training of future health information managers and informaticians.

We look forward to continuing our work with you. Please do not hesitate to contact me or Don Asmonga, AHIMA's director of government relations, if we can assist you in any way.

Sincerely,

Dan Rode

Vice President

Policy and Government Relations

cc: Linda Kloss, Chief Executive Officer Bryon Pickard, AHIMA President