



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Assistant Secretary for Legislation  
Washington, DC 20201

The Honorable Fred Upton  
Chairman  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

AUG 30 2016

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am pleased to provide you with the Annual Report to Congress on Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Privacy, Security, and Breach Notification Rule Compliance. This report was prepared by the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) in the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and is being submitted in accordance with section 13424(a) of the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act, enacted as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

The report contains information about the Department's compliance and enforcement activities with respect to the HIP AA Privacy, Security, and Breach Notification Rules for calendar years 2013 and 2014. It also includes cumulative enforcement data since the 2003 compliance date of the Privacy Rule (the first compliance date of the Rules).

Specifically, the report includes information on the number of complaints received; compliance reviews opened; the resolution of these complaints and compliance reviews; subpoenas issued; and general background information about OCR enforcement. It also describes the Department's development and implementation of an audit program, plans for future improved enforcement of the Rules, and outreach efforts.

HHS continues to be committed to strong enforcement of the HIPAA Rules. I hope you will find this report informative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim R. Esquea".

Jim R. Esquea  
Assistant Secretary for Legislation

Enclosure



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Assistant Secretary for Legislation  
Washington, DC 20201

The Honorable Frank Pallone  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

AUG 30 2016

Dear Representative Pallone:

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Sincerely,

Jim R. Esquea  
Assistant Secretary for Legislation

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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Assistant Secretary for Legislation  
Washington, DC 20201

The Honorable Kevin Brady  
Chairman  
Committee on Ways and Means  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

AUG 30 2016

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Assistant Secretary for Legislation  
Washington, DC 20201

The Honorable Sander M. Levin  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Ways and Means  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

AUG 30 2016

Dear Representative Levin:

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Assistant Secretary for Legislation  
Washington, DC 20201

The Honorable Lamar Alexander  
Chairman  
Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Assistant Secretary for Legislation  
Washington, DC 20201

The Honorable Patty Murray  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

AUG 30 2016

Dear Senator Murray:

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