

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE OF MONTANA

STEVE BULLOCK
GOVERNOR



MIKE COONEY
LT. GOVERNOR

October 8, 2018

Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS)
c/o Cindra Stahl
P.O. Box 170520
Bozeman, MT 59717

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to recognize October 8-12, 2018 as "National Health IT Week" in the state of Montana.

National Health IT Week is a premier event offering all healthcare stakeholders an opportunity to unite under one banner, showcasing the benefits that health information technology (IT) brings to U.S. healthcare, and supporting the value of health IT.

Health IT expands access to care, especially in Montana's rural communities with telemedicine, and helps to make communities healthy and prosperous. It also expands economic opportunities through job creation, particularly in the field of STEM careers. Health IT can improve the quality of healthcare delivery, increase patient safety, decrease medical errors, and strengthen the interaction between patients and healthcare providers. Montana recognizes the important role of information technology in the delivery of healthcare. The diverse stakeholders on my Governor's Council on Healthcare Innovation have consistently recognized the importance of health IT in our joint efforts to improve the overall health of Montanans, better coordinate care between providers, and ultimately to bring down costs.

I support and encourage all Montanans to recognize the value of health IT and celebrate with the Montana Chapter of the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society during "National Health IT Week," October 8-12, 2018.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Bullock", written over a horizontal line.

STEVE BULLOCK
Governor