



THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

July 20, 2022

Jacki Monson, J.D.
Chair
National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics
CDC / National Center for Health Statistics
3311 Toledo Road
Hyattsville, MD 20782-2002

Dear Chair Monson:

Thank you for your letter and recommendations on behalf of the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics to strengthen cybersecurity in healthcare.

Protecting the nation's critical healthcare infrastructure from cyberattacks is a top priority for the Department of Human Services (HHS) and this Administration, and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Security Rule is an important tool for achieving this goal. I have provided the Committee's recommendations to the HHS Office for Civil Rights, which administers and enforces the HIPAA Security Rule, for review and consideration. The Department is continuing to explore how to improve cybersecurity within the healthcare sector and increase awareness among the regulated industry and consumers about securing private health information.

Thank you again for your recommendations on this critical issue. I look forward to your continued counsel on health information privacy and security matters.

Sincerely,

Xavier Becerra