

THE BOTTOM LINE



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Medical Information Transparency Rule Is a Breakthrough on Longstanding Health Care Reform Priority for BRT CEOs

Business Leaders Say Claims Data Will Empower, Better Inform Consumers and Families

Yesterday, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services at the Department of Health and Human Services issued a final rule on the release of Medicare data, which garnered instant <u>praise</u> from Business Roundtable (BRT) for its ability to give health care consumers access to Medicare Part B claims data – including, for the first time, data on individual physicians.

"Today's decision to release Medicare claims data is a huge victory for American workers and their families," said BRT President John Engler. "This rule will empower consumers and health care purchasers and drive the health care marketplace toward better quality at lower cost."

Most notably, the rule's provisions will:

- Foster a more efficient U.S. market for health care services; and
- Enable consumers and health care purchasers to receive analysis of cost, quality and effectiveness
 performance measures from qualified organizations for a variety of health care providers
 nationwide.

The rule is a longstanding health care priority of BRT CEOs – they have long argued that health care consumers need accurate, reliable information to make informed choices.

Click <u>here</u> to view BRT's principles for health care reform.

Business Roundtable (BRT) is an association of chief executive officers of leading U.S. companies with over \$6 trillion in annual revenues and more than 14 million employees. BRT member companies comprise nearly a third of the total value of the U.S. stock market and invest more than \$150 billion annually in research and development – nearly half of all private U.S. R&D spending. Our companies pay \$163 billion in dividends to shareholders and generate an estimated \$420 billion in sales for small and medium-sized businesses annually.

BRT companies give nearly \$9 billion a year in combined charitable contributions.

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