
From: Andrea Lantz Powers [REDACTED]
Sent: March 18, 2024 11:46 AM
To: Office of the Legislative Counsel; Brendan Maguire; claudiachendermla@gmail.com
Subject: Financial Measures Act Clause 110

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing with my personal concerns and not speaking from any of my formal roles with Doctors Nova Scotia's Board of Directors, NSH, or Dalhousie.

I am very concerned as a physician and as a patient regarding the Financial Measures Act, Clause 110, which would grant ministerial access to physicians' electronic medical records (EMRs). This is where patients' health information with private notes from physician visits, medical history, medications, other records, lab results, referrals, etc., are all housed.

The government is making these changes to facilitate "health systems planning". They can, however, get this information from other de-identified sources for resource planning (eg: CIHI) and other lab and diagnostic imaging databases that currently exist. They do not need access to physician EMR's to get this data.

Other provinces make healthcare systems plans and develop patient health information apps without accessing EMR's. Government seems to be doing this to develop the YourHealthNS app, which is not necessary. Data is available from other sources. This is likely unprecedented across the country and risks the development of a slippery slope that puts patient information and physician autonomy at risk.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Andrea Lantz Powers

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