

ability to exchange information,” said Senator M. Joseph Rocks, Chairman and CEO, NHS Human Services, the nation’s largest provider of behavioral mental health, addictions, intellectual and developmental disability, and children’s services.

Netsmart also participated in the National Coordinator for Health information Technology (ONC) data segmentation technology pilot project, which demonstrated viable methods to exchange sensitive data, including substance use data protected by federal confidentiality law, between behavioral health and physical health providers.

The overwhelming feedback at the recent SAMHSA day-long listening session was in favor of updating the rules. The confidentiality of substance use treatment records is important, but much has changed in the last 42 years – in fact, much has changed in the past four years! In this digital era, the act in its current form is threatening patient safety by forcing healthcare providers to work in proverbial silos.

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