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New AHCCCS Director to Serve on Board of Nonprofit Leading State Efforts to Advance Health IT

Phoenix, Ariz. (November 10, 2009) – Arizona Health-e Connection (AzHeC), a statewide nonprofit leading the establishment of health information infrastructure (HII) in Arizona, announces Thomas J. Betlach, newly appointed director of the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS), to its board of directors. As the director of the state’s Medicaid agency, Betlach assumes a permanent position on AzHeC’s board. Prior to assuming the position of director of AHCCCS, Betlach was the agency’s deputy director since January 2002. Betlach replaces former AzHeC board member and AHCCCS director Tony Rodgers, who has served on the board since AzHeC was founded three years ago. Rodgers recently left his post at AHCCCS to assume a consulting role for Health Management Associates.

About Arizona Health-e Connection (AzHeC):

AzHeC is a statewide nonprofit that grew out of an August 2005 gubernatorial executive order to develop a “Roadmap” for establishing the state’s health information infrastructure (HII). HII includes support of Health Information Exchanges (HIE) and the adoption of health information technology (HIT) such as healthcare provider use of electronic health records. AzHeC, established in January 2007, is leading Arizona’s HII efforts, including serving as an educator and statewide clearinghouse for information, researching and developing statewide policies and model legal agreements and supporting health information exchange and healthcare provider adoption of HIT. To learn more about AzHeC, visit www.azhec.org.

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