

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **THE FEDERATION FOR IDENTITY AND CROSS-CREDENTIALING SYSTEMS COMMENDS INTRODUCTION OF MEDICARE COMMON ACCESS CARD ACT**

*Legislation Will Stop Tens of Billions in Medicare Fraud through Strong Credentialing.*

Fairfax, Virginia, September 16, 2011 – The Federation for Identity and Cross-Credentialing Systems’ (FiXS) President/CEO Mike Mestrovich issued this statement on the introduction of the Medicare Common Access Card Act of 2011:

“The recent introduction of the Medicare Common Access Card (MCAC) Act in both the House and the Senate represents a landmark in the Federal Government’s efforts to significantly curtail the waste, fraud, and abuse in the Medicare system. FiXS, a not-for-profit association approved by the government to issue credentials like the MCAC, applauds this legislation and advocates its adoption throughout government.

This bill will protect the Medicare program by issuing an upgraded, secure Medicare card similar to the identity credential used by the Department of Defense, known as the Common Access Card, while meeting federal standards and mandates for Personal Identity Verification-Interoperability (PIV-I).

FiXS congratulates the Bill’s sponsors – Senators Mark Kirk (R-IL) and Ron Wyden (D-OR) and Representatives Jim Gerlach (R-PA) and Earl Blumenauer (D-OR) for their commitment to leveraging available technology to reduce fraud, waste, and abuse. Additional, FiXS extends congratulations to the Secure ID Coalition and Smart Card Alliance for their unwavering support and commitment to this cause.”

#### **About FiXS**

Founded in 2004 and headquartered in Fairfax, Virginia, The Federation for Identity and Cross-Credentialing Systems (FiXS) is a coalition of government contractors, commercial companies and not-for-profit organizations whose mission is to establish and maintain a worldwide, interoperable identity and cross-credentialing network built on security, privacy, trust, standard operating rules, policies and technical standards. The FiXS Network verifies and authenticates the identity of industry personnel seeking to enter military installations, government-controlled areas and commercial sites tied to the network, providing a trusted mechanism for federated identity infrastructure within and between public and private sector organizations.

The coalition currently has 14 member companies, including systems integrators, financial institutions and other organizations that want to promote improved workforce protection and systems security for critical infrastructure markets. The U.S. Department of Defense and General Services Administration are participating government organizations.

The FiXS Network is an authorized link to the U.S. Department of Defense Cross-Credentialing Identification System (DCCIS) and a joint recipient of the 2005 FCW Events Government Solution Center Pioneer Award for Successful Public/Private Sector Partnership,” representing a premier example of a program managed collaboratively by government and non-government partners that tangibly improved government operations. For more information, visit [www.fixs.org](http://www.fixs.org).