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Benchmark CEO McDowell joins HIE Market Council

President Obama signed into law a \$787 billion economic stimulus plan. The plan, which includes \$42 billion in energy-related investments, and \$19 billion for the modernization of healthcare IT systems, is sparking renewed interest in the technology and green energy sectors on the West Coast and is expected to lift the private equity and venture capital activity in the area. Tyson McDowell, Benchmark's CEO, stated, "While we are hearing a lot of talk around the issues of electronic medical records related to the stimulus package, it's clear to me that once everyone dives a bit deeper, they will realize that it's not just in clinical records where the problems exist. There's no question that clinical records affect standards of care, but in the long run, keeping these hospitals efficient and therefore financially solvent, is critical to the future of American healthcare. Any overhaul in our healthcare system will require a new generation of technologies and services. At Benchmark, we look forward to being part of that generation. Despite the fact that the stimulus package only exists because of the poor economy, there's no question in my mind that healthcare in our country, and our firm in particular, will be better off because of this longer-range view of what's needed to fix the current infrastructure."
