

Electronic Signatures Act

Overview

On June 30, 2000, President Clinton signed into law the Electronic Records and Signatures in Commerce Act (or Electronic Signatures Act). The president signed the act both electronically and using the more traditional pen-and-ink.

The Electronic Signatures Act (Public Law No: 106-229) went into effect on October 1, 2000 and gives electronic contracts the same weight as those executed on paper. The act has some specific exemptions or preemptions, notably the provision concerning student loans (section 107, (b)(3)).

Although the act enables documents to be signed electronically, the option to do so lies solely with the consumer. In other words, no portion of the act requires you to sign documents electronically, you retain the right to use 'paper & ink' documents at your discretion.

The act specifically avoids stipulating any 'approved' form of electronic signature, instead leaving the method open to interpretation by the marketplace. Any numbers of methods are acceptable under the act. Methods include simply pressing an *I Accept* button, logging in with assigned credentials, digital certificates, smart cards and biometrics.

BHH's Prospective

BHH has carefully weighed the ramifications of the Electronic Signature Act and formulated a policy which we believe combines ease-of-use along with necessary security and privacy safeguards.

Since 2011, BHH has been assigning personal identification numbers (Log Ins) for use in our on-line Internet access. The combination of a user name and a password provides the facility to uniquely identify a person. It is this uniqueness which enables us to know that the person signing a document is the person authorized to do so.

BHH is pleased to finally make our first all-digital offerings available. Effective immediately, BHH will begin making services available on-line which were previously restricted to 'paper & ink' documents.

By logging into BHH's SOS website and utilizing the documents, you are acknowledging its authenticity of medical information that you provided as if you were signing the document yourself.

I hereby understand and acknowledge that by logging into BHH's SOS website and obtaining my unique credentials, I am approving the ability to sign the documents online electronically.

Caregiver Name

Date

Signature