



HCHP's Position on HSA's and Indiana's POWER accounts.

Please contact your state representative immediately! The Governor's health reform legislation, Senate Bill 503, takes Indiana in the wrong direction on health reform and rewards inefficient and profit driven insurers with huge public subsidies. This plan takes us away from our goal of a publicly funded,

universal health care system and toward a system even more dominated by powerful insurance companies.

SB503 would create POWER accounts, a new kind of medical savings account. This kind of market based health reform has resulted in higher out of pocket costs and less access to health care for many people. These "consumer directed health plans" put people in the position of choosing between keeping money in their pocket and paying to see the doctor – a dangerous incentive for the low-income population that SB503 targets.

While no funding was included in SB503 as it passed the Senate, a cigarette tax and other public subsidies are being debated as ways to fund health insurance for the uninsured. HCHP strongly opposes using public funds to subsidize the purchase of private health insurance. Our tax dollars would go much further if they are allocated to a more efficient public insurance program and not wasted on insurance company administrative inefficiency and excessive profits.

SB503 is pending in the House Public Health Committee. Call your state representative at 317-232-9600 or 1-800-382-9842 and tell them to oppose any market based health reforms like medical savings accounts.