

The Council for Affordable Health Insurance



April 6, 2006

The Honorable John Ensign
U.S. Senate
364 Russell Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510-2805

Dear Sen. Ensign:

On behalf of the Council for Affordable Health Insurance (CAHI) we are writing to express our support for S. 2554, the Affordability in the Individual Market (AIM) Act. CAHI was organized in 1992 as a research and advocacy organization devoted to positive, market-based health care reforms that preserve freedom of choice for individuals and encourage a competitive health insurance market.

The AIM Act would amend the Internal Revenue Code to expand the permissible use of health savings account to include premiums for non-group high deductible health plan coverage. This small but important change, would allow individuals and families who purchase high deductible health plans, to use their Health Savings Account (HSA) to pay plan premiums. CAHI has long supported tax equity in the purchase of health insurance. The AIM Act brings individuals purchasing health insurance yet another step closer to tax equity with those who receive health insurance coverage through an employer sponsored health benefit plan.

We commend you for introducing this legislation that will offer individuals purchasing health insurance for themselves and their families a modicum of relief. We pledge our support and assistance to working for the bills passage.

Sincerely,

Merrill Matthews
Director

Angela M. Hunter
Director of Federal Affairs