



# The Employers' VOICE

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April 2023

Hello Forum Friends,

Happy last day of the Indiana Legislative Session! Meaningful legislation that the Forum strongly supported crossed the finish line early this morning. It was a huge team effort and thank you to all who helped! I am looking forward to some R&R... enjoy the newsletter!

Best,

**Gloria Sachdev**

President and CEO, Employers' Forum of Indiana

[Email Gloria](#)

## Policy: State and Federal Legislation

### WE DID IT!!

It's been a roller coaster ride this legislative session, but last night, both chambers of the Indiana General Assembly passed landmark legislation to curtail Indiana's high healthcare prices and bring balance to our anti-competitive healthcare market. These bills, which include HEA 1004, SEA 7, and SEA 8, now head to Governor Holcomb's desk.



This is a huge step in the right direction for Indiana families and businesses. HEA 1004 prohibits our 5 largest hospital systems from charging unwarranted hospital facility fees for services provided off-campus, defined as greater than 250 yards away from a hospital. It also sets a 285% of Medicare commercial price benchmark for these hospital systems to be compared to. However, no penalties would be applied should they not meet this benchmark. Earlier, stronger language was included in this bill noting a 260% of Medicare benchmark with penalties. As these hospitals committed to lowering their prices to the national average, the state will be monitoring their prices and financials closely for accountability purposes. All Good news!

There are several additional healthcare bills that crossed the finish line in the last 72 hours, and we'd like to make sure you understand them all. That's why on **May 4 at 12:00 noon**, our public affairs team from Hallowell consulting will be hosting an in-depth Zoom meeting going over the three bills mentioned above and more! Invites were sent out in early April. If you are a Forum Member and did not receive the invite, please email Sara Otte, [sara@employersforumindiana.org](mailto:sara@employersforumindiana.org).

We couldn't have done this without great data and the hard work of so many people. The Employers' Forum of Indiana would like to thank all of the following individuals and organizations who contributed to the effort to lower healthcare prices during this legislative session:

- The Forum Policy Committee & all Forum members who educated legislators
- Speaker Todd Huston and President Pro Tem. Rodric Bray, legislative leadership
- Representative Donna Schaibley, author of HEA 1004
- Senator Ed Charbonneau, author of SEA 7
- Senator Justin Busch, author of SEA 8
- Chris Whaley, economist at RAND Corporation
- Marilyn Bartlett, forensic accountant at the National Academy for State Health Policy
- David Kelleher, principle of Healthcare Options Inc. & board member of the Employers' Forum of Indiana
- Hoosiers for Affordable Healthcare
- Indiana Manufacturers Association



### Indiana Hospital Pricing Measure Could Cut Bills by Half

On April 20th Gloria Sachdev spoke with reporters from WISH-TV to discuss the importance of addressing hospitals pricing in the 2023 Indiana Legislative Session. Watch the clip and read the article [here](#).

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### Hospitals Put on Defense Over Site-Neutral Payments

Momentum is building in Congress to address the way hospitals charge more for the same services private doctors deliver in their offices — a sign of broader lawmaker frustration with the industry. Read the full story [here](#).



## 2023 Indiana Legislative Health Policy Media Coverage

To keep up with current healthcare legislation in Indiana, we maintain a weekly [slide deck](#). Enjoy!



## Inside the Forum

### May 4, 2023 - 2023 IN Legislative Session Health Policy Overview

We are excited to invite Forum Members to our May 4th Indiana Legislative Session Health Policy Overview via Zoom from 12:00 - 12:45pm ET. Invitations were sent in early April, to Forum members only. If you are a Forum member and did not receive an invite or would like to join this meeting virtually, please reach out to Sara Otte at [sara@employersforumindiana.org](mailto:sara@employersforumindiana.org).

Mark your calendar for these upcoming Forum Member All-Stakeholder meetings! Details, including agenda items, will be distributed prior to each meeting.

- **August 24, 2023** | Time & location TBD
- **November 2, 2023** | Time & location TBD

## Enroll in RAND 5.0!

### Enroll Now: 5th RAND Hospital Price Transparency Study

We're still accepting participants in RAND 5.0! **After filling out the link below, a RAND project manager will reach out with instructions. It is that easy!**



- [RAND Hospital Price Transparency Study FAQ](#)

[ENROLL in RAND 5.0 NOW](#)

## Member Spotlight

## John Patterson

Senior Manager of Human Resources, Haynes International



### What aspect of your current position do you enjoy the most?

I would have to say the collaboration is what I most enjoy about my role, working towards something big with a team to achieve a common goal. Every day at work is an opportunity I have to contribute to the growth and success of the company, but not without having a total team, and this is what makes my day. Yes, there are times when we all can be put to the test, but in the end, it brings great satisfaction knowing that I have done my best to improve something or create something great.

### If there was a way to fix an issue in Healthcare in 1 day, what issue would you choose? Why?

The issue I would choose would be the continued rising cost of health care. I hear all too often about the associated cost of health care, not only from an employer's standpoint, but families as well. We as an employer are continuously attempting to find ways to maintain or reduce our cost. This alone is a full time job, but no one person can do it, therefore, it takes a strong and dedicated team.

From a family standpoint, it can be a strain on one's financials' especially with some of the high deductible programs that are within companies. I realize these companies have a business to operate, but there has to be a better solution. We know that the cost of health care changes people's behavior, with many forgoing seeing a doctor when they feel sick or avoiding preventive health visits entirely. We also know that some families can't afford necessary prescriptions and may skip doses or otherwise not take medication as prescribed. Each of these behaviors can lead to serious health issues, increasing the cost of care going forward. In my opinion, this is not affordable health care.

### What is your favorite summer activity?

Large family gatherings and enjoying a great summer day with food, drink and yard games. I really enjoy the laughter that is heard, the discussions that takes place and the time spent as a family. I enjoy watching how engaged the parent's become with their children. Smiles and laughter can be contagious, and it is all worth it.

## Indiana All Payer Claims Database (APCD)

### Submitter Information and Deadlines for the Indiana APCD

The brand new [Indiana APCD](#) is now collecting data! It aggregates eligibility data, medical claims, pharmacy prescription drug claims, non-fee-for-service information, and health care provider data.

The purpose of the Indiana APCD is to:

- Identify healthcare needs and inform healthcare policy

- Compare costs between various treatment settings and approaches
- Provide information to consumers and purchasers
- Improve the quality and affordability of patient healthcare and healthcare coverage

#### To Learn More Visit:

- Intros to the IN APCD the CDL and Registration: [Link](#)
- Intro to SFTP & PGP Encryption: [Link](#)
- Intro to Claims Data Manager (CMD): [Link](#)
- [Overview of Onpoint CMD and Data Submission Best Practices](#): [Link](#)

## In the News

### EFI in the News

- [Indiana Could Save \\$2B if Hospitals Lowered Prices. Hospital Leaders Dispute this Analysis](#) (WFYI)
- [Presentation: The Case for Multifaceted State Policy Interventions](#) (CPR)
  - [Additional Presentations in this Series](#) (CPR)
- [Walking, Not Running, Toward Healthcare Market Change](#) (Leader's Edge)
- [Hospitals' Off-Site Fees Draw Lawmakers' Scrutiny](#) (Axios)
- [Mixed Results on Bills to Lower Health Care Costs, as Health Care Leaders Express Concern](#) (WFYI)
- [Mayo Clinic Patients See Facility Fees Appear Where They Weren't Before](#) (Post Bulletin)

...find more articles featuring EFI in the [Media Coverage](#) section of the Forum website.

### Employers & Insurers:

- [UnitedHealthcare Cuts Back Prior Authorization Requirements](#) (HealthcareDive)
- [Lilly Adds Another \\$1.6B, 200 Jobs to Boone County Project](#) (IndyStar)
- [UnitedHealth Group Revenue up 15% in Q1](#) (Beckers)
- [Elevance Health Tops 1Q Forecast on Medicaid Growth](#) (IBJ)

### Hospitals

- [Study Finds Hospitals' Cash Prices for Uninsured Often Lower Than Insurer - Negotiated Prices](#) (Johns Hopkins)
- [Widespread Third-Party Tracking on Hospital Website Poses Privacy Risks for Patients and Legal Liability for Hospitals](#) (Health Affairs)
- [25 Hospitals Where Charity Care Falls Behind Tax Breaks](#) (Beckers)
- [Podcast: First, Do No Harm. Does the Business of Hospitals Follow this Creed?](#) (Constantine Cannon)

### Pharmacy

- [FDA Approves First Over-the-Counter Naloxone Nasal Spray](#) (FDA.gov)
- [Report at a Glance: Obesity Management](#) (Icer)
- [Powerful New Obesity Drug Poised to Upend Weight-Loss Care](#) (IBJ)

## Other News/Healthcare News

- [Od/Ed: Indiana Youth Leaving Foster Care Need a Home; Affordable Housing is Scarce](#) (IndyStar)

Do you have a suggestion or contribution for our next newsletter? [Let us know.](#)



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