

MOVANT'S STATEMENT

The specific question presented by this motion to amend is whether to strike or retain a provision of the by-laws which requires candidates for HSA co-president to have previously served on the Board. Understood in the proper context, this question is not as abstract as it might first appear.

Citing the need to strictly follow the by-laws, the HSA Board recently decided that it would not allow Jody Polidoro to run for president of the HSA because Jody has never previously served on the HSA Board. Their decision means that there will be only one candidate for president in the upcoming election. The movant contends that the Board's strict application of the bylaws to Jody's candidacy is inconsistent with the more flexible approach the Board has taken in dealing with this and related provisions of the by-laws both this year and historically. Indeed, irrespective of how this issue is resolved, the election on April 18th will not comply with the by-laws in several significant respects.

The provision the Board is relying on to keep Jody off the ballot is too restrictive. Strictly enforced, it precludes all but a small handful of HSA members from running. As it stands, there has not been an actual election (*i.e.*, voting) for HSA president since May 2014—an election in which neither candidate for president had prior Board experience. The Board's decision to keep Jody off the ballot will prevent the HSA membership from having a choice in who serves as president for at least another year. The purpose of this motion is to give our members a real choice *this year*.