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HSA BANK LAUNCHES NATIONAL HSA EDUCATION INITIATIVE

WATERBURY, Conn., August 18, 2005 - HSA Bank™, a division of Webster Bank, N.A., a subsidiary of Webster Financial Corporation (NYSE: WBS), announced today its plans to launch a month-long, nationwide education initiative to inform individuals and businesses of the merits of Health Savings Accounts (HSAs). From August 24th to September 23rd, HSA Bank representatives will hold seminars in Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Dallas, Hartford, Houston, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, New Orleans, New York, Phoenix, Portland, San Diego, San Francisco and Seattle. These seminars will address the advantages of choosing a high deductible health plan with an HSA and the ways employers and account holders can capitalize on the potential of HSAs.

“We have always stressed education. The HSA concept is revolutionary and new to a large segment of the marketplace. With our national education initiative, HSA Bank intends to create increased awareness, understanding and acceptance of HSAs,” said Kirk Hoewisch, president of HSA Bank.

The cost to attend a seminar is \$99 per individual. Coinciding with the seminars are “webinars” hosted by HSA Bank. The webinars will begin in early September and run through the end of this year. For more information on this initiative, please visit the HSA Bank website at www.hsabank.com or call HSA Bank’s Business Relations Department at 866-357-5232.

HSA Bank’s new Macromedia Flash™ presentations add to its current collection of general overview presentations by providing more in-depth tutorials and demonstrations of specific features and services. Additionally, HSA Bank is also offering health plan providers and employers with an opportunity to obtain a customized plan comparison. The plan comparison will allow a member or employee to compare an HSA plan with traditional plans to ensure the HSA is an appropriate fit for his or her specific situation and benefit plan options.

HSA Bank serves customers in every state in the nation and is one of the first financial institutions nationwide to offer health savings accounts. HSA Bank combines convenience, service and savings with

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HSA Bank is a division of Webster Bank

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low account maintenance fees, high interest rates for investments, 24-hour account access online or through an automated telephone system and outstanding personal service. For more information about HSA Bank, visit the HSA Bank website at www.hsabank.com.

Webster Financial Corporation is the holding company for Webster Bank, National Association and Webster Insurance. With \$17.4 billion in assets, Webster provides business and consumer banking, mortgage, insurance, financial planning, trust and investment services through 153 banking offices, 291 ATMs, telephone banking and the Internet. Webster Bank owns the asset-based lending firm Webster Business Credit Corporation, the insurance premium finance company Budget Installment Corp., Center Capital Corporation, an equipment finance company headquartered in Farmington, Connecticut and provides health savings account trustee and administrative services through HSA Bank, a division of Webster Bank, Member FDIC.

For more information about Webster, including past press releases and the latest annual report, visit the Webster website at www.websteronline.com.

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