



**FORBES
HEALTH FOUNDATION**

WEST PENN ALLEGHENY HEALTH SYSTEM

2570 HAYMAKER ROAD, MONROEVILLE, PA 15146

412-858-4472; FAX: 412-858-2351

www.forbeshealthfoundation.org

RECEIVED
Corporate & Financial Regulation

MAR 13 2012

**Pennsylvania
Insurance Department**

Robert Brackbill
Chief, Company Licensing Division
Pennsylvania Insurance Department
1345 Strawberry Square
Harrisburg, PA 17120
FAX(717)787-8557
rbrackbill@pa.gov

Dear Mr. Brackbill,

As members of the Forbes Hospital Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the Forbes Regional Hospital, we wish to affirm our support for the proposed West Penn Allegheny Health System (WPAHS) affiliation with Highmark Inc. Forbes Regional has a 30 year history of providing high quality care for the residents of eastern Allegheny and western Westmoreland Counties, initially as an independent hospital and as a part of WPAHS for the past twelve years.

Forbes was borne out of a charitable mission by local community leaders to provide healthcare to our neighbors in their home community. We continue to fulfill the commitment to the people of this region by maintaining a women and infants' center, emergency medicine, behavioral health services and oncology care. In addition, the Forbes Hospital Foundation supports new and expanded clinical services, like diagnostic and interventional cardiology and cardiac surgery, orthopaedics and neurosurgery.

Highmark has now recognized that Forbes Regional Hospital, and the entire West Penn Allegheny Health System, are important community assets that are fiscally challenged. Early investments in the facility and programs are foreshadowing the potential for our future partnership. Together, WPAHS and Highmark will preserve healthcare options for individuals, families and employers. Further, the affiliation will sustain opportunities for the workforce that has provides excellent care for all patients, day in and day out.

The future for Forbes Regional Hospital and WPAHS is bright with Highmark as a partner. As a voluntary board that is committed to building on the advantages of this unique affiliation, we encourage you to review the transaction carefully and expeditiously. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

James S. Hamilton
Retired Senior Vice President
Federated Investors, Inc.

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