

0445

Bybee, Cressinda

From: Chronister, Ronald [ronald.chronister@bipc.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2012 9:56 AM
To: Bybee, Cressinda
Cc: paul.mckrell@pittsburghpa.gov
Subject: Response to Public Comment by Mayor Luke Ravenstahl
Attachments: ScannedFile.pdf

Ms. Bybee: I am attaching a response from UPE to the comment in support of the affiliation received by the Insurance Department from Pittsburgh Mayor Luke Ravenstahl. I am also copying Mayor Ravenstahl's office with the response by email.

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**BEFORE THE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA**

Statement Regarding the Acquisition of Control of or Merger with Domestic Insurers:

Highmark Inc.; First Priority Life Insurance Company, Inc.; Gateway Health Plan, Inc.; Highmark Casualty Insurance Company; Highmark Senior Resources Inc.; HM Casualty Insurance Company; HM Health Insurance Company, d/b/a Highmark Health Insurance Company; HM Life Insurance Company; HMO of Northeastern Pennsylvania, Inc., d/b/a First Priority Health; Inter-County Health Plan, Inc.; Inter-County Hospitalization Plan, Inc.; Keystone Health Plan West, Inc.; United Concordia Companies, Inc.; United Concordia Dental Plans of Pennsylvania, Inc.; United Concordia Life and Health Insurance Company

By UPE, a Pennsylvania nonprofit corporation

**Response of UPE to
Comment of Pittsburgh Mayor Luke Ravenstahl
Dated April 10, 2012**

UPE is responding to the comment from Pittsburgh Mayor Luke Ravenstahl received April 11, 2012. The comment is numbered as Document 0433 on the Highmark/West Penn Cumulative Log page of the Pennsylvania Insurance Department website.

Mayor Ravenstahl has stated his support for the proposed affiliation of Highmark Inc. ("Highmark") and West Penn Allegheny Health System ("WPAHS") noting that the proposed affiliation is essential to sustain WPAHS as a prominent employer and vital economic asset in the region. Mayor Ravenstahl also highlights the importance of the proposed affiliation in maintaining the excellent level of care WPAHS provides during its nearly 1 million patient contacts per year.

UPE is in agreement with the comments of Mayor Ravenstahl and believes that this transaction will ensure the continued vitality of WPAHS and deliver value, choice, and the high-quality healthcare services Western Pennsylvanians deserve.

UPE would like to thank Mayor Ravenstahl for his comments and support.

UPE
120 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

DATE: April 19, 2012

cc: Luke Ravenstahl, Mayor, City of Pittsburgh