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**Bybee, Cressinda**

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**From:** Chronister, Ronald [ronald.chronister@bipc.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 14, 2012 10:34 AM  
**To:** Bybee, Cressinda  
**Subject:** Response to Comment Letter from Senator Casey  
**Attachments:** ScannedFile.pdf

Ms. Bybee: I am attaching a response from UPE to the comment received by the Insurance Department from U.S. Senator Robert Casey. I am also copying Senator Casey with the response by mail addressed to his Senate Office in Washington D.C.

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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 U.S. Senator Robert Casey  
Dated March 22, 2012**

UPE is responding to the comment from United States Senator Robert Casey received by the Pennsylvania Department April 27, 2012. The comment is numbered as Document 0617 on the Highmark/West Penn Cumulative Log page of the Pennsylvania Insurance Department website.

Senator Casey has expressed his support for the proposed affiliation of Highmark Inc. ("Highmark") and West Penn Allegheny Health System ("WPAHS"). Senator Casey highlights the importance of maintaining WPAHS as a stable employer and economic influence in the region. Senator Casey also notes that preserving consumer choice and competition in health care delivery will ensure that Western Pennsylvanians will continue to receive the highest quality of care possible at an affordable price.

UPE is in agreement with Senator Casey's comments and believes that this transaction will ensure the continued vitality of WPAHS, delivering value, choice, and high-quality health care services to the Western Pennsylvania community. UPE also agrees that the proposed affiliation will sustain WPAHS as a premier employer and positive economic influence in the region.

UPE would like to thank Senator Casey for his comments and support.

**UPE**  
120 Fifth Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

DATE: May 14, 2012

cc: U.S. Senator Robert Casey