

## Community Collaborative Stakeholders

c/o State Senator Jim Ferlo  
Pennsylvania State Senate  
3519 Butler Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15201

and

State Representative Dom Costa  
Pennsylvania State House  
6808 Greenwood Street, Suite 2  
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

RECEIVED  
Commissioner's Office

December 18, 2012

DEC 20 2012

Secretary Michael Consedine  
Pennsylvania Department of Insurance  
1326 Strawberry Square  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Pennsylvania  
Insurance Department

Re: Suggested Deadline for West Penn Allegheny Health System/Highmark Affiliation Agreement

Dear Secretary Consedine:

On behalf of the Community Collaborative Stakeholders, we thank you for your continued cooperation and open dialogue as we continue to advocate for the finalization of the West Penn Allegheny Health System (WPAHS) and Highmark Affiliation Agreement.

The Stakeholders are dedicated to advancing the needs of health care consumers, employees, and communities in western Pennsylvania. As such, we hope to see a successful partnership between these two healthcare providers in order to better serve our region. While the two groups are engaged at the negotiating table, we have two requests we hope you will consider: impose a deadline for the filing of the new affiliation agreement, and commit to rule expeditiously when the new filing becomes available.

We are gravely concerned that, as time passes, we will lose the valuable opportunity that an affiliation between these two entities presents. As conditions change at WPAHS, and as our region moves forward, we believe that the prospects of the merger become dimmer. We must use what limited leverage we have as advocates to see that the agreement is reached and fulfilled. We ask that you consider imposing a deadline for the filing in order to encourage the entities to operate swiftly.

Once the new filing is received, we subsequently ask you to assure all interested parties that you will rule quickly on the matter.

We hope you consider these requests and that the issue is resolved to the best benefit of health care consumers in our Commonwealth.

Signatories include:

- State Senator Jim Ferlo
- State Representative Dom Costa
- Pittsburgh Mayor Luke Ravenstahl
- County Executive Rich Fitzgerald
- Congressman Mike Doyle
- State Senator Jay Costa
- State Senator Wayne Fontana
- State Representative Adam Ravenstahl
- County Council President Charles Martoni
- Allegheny County Councilman Jim Burns
- Pittsburgh City Councilman Patrick Dowd
- Pittsburgh City Councilman Bill Peduto
- Robert Rubinstein, Executive Director, Pittsburgh Urban Redevelopment Authority
- Neil Bisno, President, SEIU Pennsylvania Healthcare
- Aggie Brose, Deputy Director, Bloomfield Garfield Corporation
- Beth Heeb, Executive Director, Consumer Health Coalition

- CC:   The Honorable State Senator Michael Stack  
       The Honorable State Senator Donald White  
       Keith Ghezzi, Interim President and CEO, WPAHS  
       William Winkenwerder, Jr., M.D., MBA. President and CEO, Highmark Inc.