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EDDIE DAY PASHINSKI, MEMBER

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House of Representatives
 COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
 HARRISBURG

October 27, 2014

RECEIVED

OCT 31 2014

INSURANCE DEPARTMENT
 LEGISLATIVE OFFICE
 RECEIVED
 Commissioner's Office

OCT 31 2014

Pennsylvania
 Insurance Department

Insurance Commissioner Michael F. Consedine
 1326 Strawberry Square
 Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Insurance Commissioner Consedine,

After careful consideration and consultation with Blue Cross of NEPA, Highmark and independent insurance representatives, I have concluded that the Blue Cross of NEPA-Highmark proposed merger would be beneficial to the people throughout NEPA and I offer this letter of support.

Blue Cross of NEPA has been the flag ship of health insurance companies for over 75 years. They became the name that everyone trusted and depended upon to provide quality coverage to keep their members healthy and protected.

Blue Cross of NEPA has also provided 700+ jobs in NEPA with the main administration centers located in Wilkes-Barre. This letter of support is contingent upon those jobs and the main administrative center remaining in Wilkes-Barre. I have received assurances from Highmark that those jobs and the main center will be maintained for at least four years after the merger is complete. I fully understand the need to adjust business models to adapt to an ever changing business climate, however, Highmark will still need a nexus in NEPA

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and I have offered to engage with Highmark to ensure their nexus will be most beneficial to Highmark if they remain in Wilkes-Barre.

As the health care industry continues to adapt to a myriad of advancements and increased enrollment, Highmark has demonstrated its ability to maintain a competitive edge and still provide affordable and quality coverage.

Their financial resources and high quality technology will provide Blue Cross of NEPA with the same quality to their policy holders and ensure stability and guaranteed coverage in the global market place.

Blue Cross of NEPA and Highmark have demonstrated time and time again that they can work together to provide the kinds of quality service for the people of NEPA. I feel confident that this proposed merger will provide a positive result for the people of NEPA and I ask that you consider this letter in support as you deliberate your decision.

Thank you for due consideration and I will make myself available to you for further inquiry.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eddie Day Pashinski". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Eddie Day Pashinski, Member
121st Legislative District