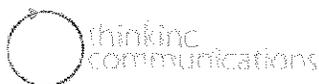


Phelps, David (INS)

From: Brian Tedeschi <brian@thinkcreativity.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2015 12:08 PM
To: Phelps, David (INS)
Cc: 'Jessica Brooks'
Subject: Written Testimony: Highmark Grant Request for AHN
Attachments: PIDFinal4-30_signed.pdf

Mr. Phelps: I am providing the attached written testimony at the behest of Jessica Brooks, CEO & Executive Director for the Pittsburgh Business Group on Health regarding Highmark's grant request for the Allegheny Health Network and the subsequent public hearing slated for Monday, May 4, 2015.

Please acknowledge receipt and feel free to let me know if you have any questions. Thank you.



-- Brian Tedeschi
Think Communications, Inc.
2818 Smallman Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
412-281-9228 - o
412-638-5981 - m
www.thinkcreativity.com



Pittsburgh
Business Group
ON HEALTH

P.O. Box 208 Ambridge, PA 15003 info@pbghpa.com www.pbghpa.com 724-251-0230

Pennsylvania Insurance Department Public Hearing
Highmark's Grant Request for Allegheny Health Network

Written Commentary – April 30, 2015
Pittsburgh Business Group on Health

On behalf of the 75 private and public employer-members in southwestern Pennsylvania, representing more than 500,000 lives, and on behalf of the board of directors of the Pittsburgh Business Group on Health (PBGH), I am pleased to comment on Highmark's request to transfer \$175 million from Highmark, in the form of a grant, to the Allegheny Health Network (AHN) for purposes of capital investments to the AHN.

The employer-members of the PBGH believe it is important to promote competition in the region among insurers and providers. Consequently, we believe the grant approval Highmark is seeking will, indeed, preserve and promote provider competition not only for the benefit of employers, but more importantly, for the future of health care quality, innovation, and access for patients.

PBGH supports the continued investment in the marketplace by all insurers with the goals of driving quality and supporting innovation among their respective organizations. Investments like the kind Highmark is seeking to make in the AHN will be instrumental in providing a more level playing field for all parties, including both patients and providers.

Moreover, the Pennsylvania Insurance Department's approval of Highmark's request will further show other insurers the state is committed to leadership in providing health care and benefits options for employers and employees. In addition, preserving and promoting provider competition by granting Highmark's request is critical to upgrading care-delivery facilities and services for the community.

Representatives from our employer-members are experts in the respective fields of health care planning and benefits, and seek to promote marketplace competition to ensure their workforces have important health care-related options, access, and quality of care.

The PBGH is the only employer-led coalition in southwestern Pennsylvania promoting health care and benefits strategies through education, collaboration, advocacy, and innovation among members and the community. Our members and their employees command more than \$5.2 billion in annual health care spending.

We recommend the Pennsylvania Insurance Department support competition among the delivery systems within Southwestern Pennsylvania.

Jessica L. Brooks

Sincerely,
Jessica Brooks
CEO & Executive Director
Pittsburgh Business Group on Health

Phelps, David (INS)

From: Phelps, David (INS)
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2015 12:14 PM
To: 'Brian Tedeschi'
Subject: RE: Written Testimony: Highmark Grant Request for AHN

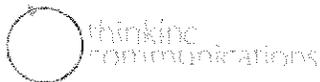
Brian,
This email confirms receipt.

Thank you,
Dave

From: Brian Tedeschi [<mailto:brian@thinkcreativity.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2015 12:08 PM
To: Phelps, David (INS)
Cc: 'Jessica Brooks'
Subject: Written Testimony: Highmark Grant Request for AHN

Mr. Phelps: I am providing the attached written testimony at the behest of Jessica Brooks, CEO & Executive Director for the Pittsburgh Business Group on Health regarding Highmark's grant request for the Allegheny Health Network and the subsequent public hearing slated for Monday, May 4, 2015.

Please acknowledge receipt and feel free to let me know if you have any questions. Thank you.



-- Brian Tedeschi
Think Communications, Inc.
2818 Smallman Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
412-281-9228 - o
412-638-5981 - m
www.thinkcreativity.com