

**SENATOR
DAN LAUGHLIN
49TH DISTRICT**

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Senate of Pennsylvania
May 3, 2017

COMMITTEES

AGING & YOUTH, VICE CHAIR
BANKING & INSURANCE
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URBAN AFFAIRS & HOUSING

Joseph DiMemmo, CPA
Deputy Insurance Commissioner
Office of Corporate & Financial Regulation
Pennsylvania Insurance Department
1345 Strawberry Square
Harrisburg, PA 17120

VIA EMAIL: ra-in-comment@pa.gov

RE: **Modification to Order No. ID-RC-13-06**

Dear Deputy Commissioner DiMemmo:

As someone who has seen the importance of continued strategic investments for health care in the Erie region, I am writing in support of the proposed modification to Order No. ID-RC-13-06. This proposed modification would help to foster a more level playing field for real health care competition in western Pennsylvania.

The 49th Senatorial District is proud to have St. Vincent hospital providing services to many of our neighbors. St. Vincent Hospital, which was founded in 1875, became part of Allegheny Health Network (AHN) in 2013. The 334-bed hospital employs over 200 physicians who oversaw care during more than 14,500 inpatient admissions, over 66,000 emergency department visits, close to 4,700 inpatient surgeries and nearly 13,000 outpatient surgeries in 2016. Further, St. Vincent is the leader in quality care in Erie and the top rated hospital in Erie for overall hospital care, overall medical care, overall surgical care, cardiac care, major cardiac surgery, heart attack treatment, and stroke care.

Next month, Saint Vincent will break ground on a \$115 million capital investment plan, beginning with the construction of a new emergency department and a state-of-the-art operating room suite. This project illustrates the benefits of allowing Highmark Health and AHN the ability to make key capital investments that will improve the health of their members and patients while also contributing to the economic vitality in the Erie region.

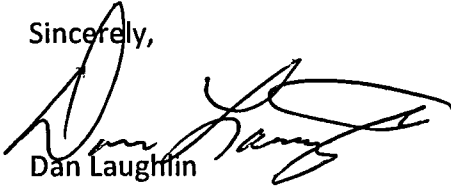
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INSURANCE DEPARTMENT
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

I know that continued strategic investment in local hospitals such as St. Vincent will benefit patients by providing access to high quality care in a local setting. I urge you to favorably consider the requested modification.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Laughlin", written over the printed name.

Dan Laughlin

49th Senatorial District

