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Bybee, Cressinda

From: Chronister, Ronald [ronald.chronister@bipc.com]
Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 11:55 AM
To: Bybee, Cressinda
Subject: Response to Comment from the Rev. Dr. Donald B. Green
Attachments: ScannedFile.pdf

Ms. Bybee: I am attaching a response from UPE to the comment received by the Insurance Department from Rev. Dr. Donald B. Green, Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania. I am also copying Dr. Green with the response by mail at the address appearing in the letterhead of his letter in support of the affiliation of Highmark Inc. and the West Penn Allegheny Health System.

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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 Rev. Dr. Donald B. Green Dated March 1, 2012

UPE is responding to the comment from Rev. Dr. Donald Green received by the Pennsylvania Insurance Department March 6, 2012. The comment is numbered as Document 0187 on the Highmark/ West Penn Cumulative Log page of the Pennsylvania Insurance Department website.

Rev. Dr. Green of Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania has stated his support for the proposed affiliation of Highmark Inc. ("Highmark") and West Penn Allegheny Health System ("WPAHS") noting it will maintain consumer choice and ensure competitive pricing for health care services. Dr. Green also notes that Pittsburgh has some of the highest insurance premiums in the country and that by having a continued choice of medical providers costs can remain competitive so that business can still afford to provide healthcare benefits to their employees.

UPE agrees with the comments of Dr. Green and believes ensuring the continued vitality of the WPAHS will help combat rising medical costs while promoting high-quality health care services that will benefit the entire Western Pennsylvania community.

UPE would like to thank Dr. Green for his comments and support.

UPE
120 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

DATE: March 12, 2012

cc: Rev. Dr. Donald B. Green