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April 17, 2012

Hearing Officer

Mr. Robert Brackbill

Chief, Company Licensing Division

1345 Strawberry Square

Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Sir:

I want you to know that I support the proposed affiliation of Highmark and West Penn Allegheny Health System (WPAHS).

Here are the reasons why:

- I believe this affiliation will set an example of how to improve the U.S. health care system.
- I believe this affiliation will help not only southwestern Pennsylvanians, but also will serve to expand access to doctors and hospitals and help to rein in health care costs.
- I believe this affiliation will deliver value, choice and high-quality health care.
- I believe this affiliation will help preserve thousands of jobs in the West Penn Allegheny Health System.

For these reasons, I ask the Pennsylvania Insurance Department to approve Highmark's filing as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Cathleen Hughes

CATHLEEN HUGHES

April 11, 2012

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