

Bybee, Cressinda

From: Chronister, Ronald [ronald.chronister@bipc.com]
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2013 12:02 PM
To: Bybee, Cressinda
Cc: aravenstahl@pahouse.net; bkortz@pahouse.net; rmatzie@pahouse.net; pcosta@pahouse.net; nkotik@pahouse.net; mgergely@pahouse.net; jmarkose@pahouse.net; jwhite@pahouse.net; jwheatle@pahouse.net; hreadsha@pahouse.net; fdermody@pahouse.net; emolchany@pahouse.net; egainey@pahouse.net; dcosta@pahouse.net; ddeasy@pahouse.net; dfrankel@pahouse.net; tdeluca@pahouse.net
Subject: Response to Public Comment from the Allegheny County Democratic Delegation
Attachments: HBG1_GENERAL-1650949-v1-Response to Public Comment from Allegheny County Delegation.DOCX

Ms. Bybee,

Attached is a response to the public comment received by the Insurance Department from the Allegheny County Democratic Delegation. I am providing members of the Delegation with a copy of the response with this email and by mail.

Ron Chronister

TAX ADVICE DISCLAIMER: Any federal tax advice contained in this communication (including attachments) was not intended or written to be used, and it cannot be used, by you for the purpose of (1) avoiding any penalty that may be imposed by the Internal Revenue Service or (2) promoting, marketing or recommending to another party any transaction or matter addressed herein. If you would like such advice, please contact us.

Above email is for intended recipient only and may be confidential and protected by attorney/client privilege.

If you are not the intended recipient, please advise the sender immediately.

Unauthorized use or distribution is prohibited and may be unlawful.

**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 the Allegheny County Democratic Delegation
Dated February 6, 2013**

UPE is responding to the comment from the Allegheny County Democratic Delegation. The comment is numbered as Document 1271 on the Highmark/West Penn Cumulative Log page of the Pennsylvania Insurance Department website.

The Allegheny County Democratic Delegation ("Delegation") has expressed its support for the proposed affiliation of Highmark Inc. ("Highmark") and West Penn Allegheny Health System ("WPAHS").

The Delegation recognizes Highmark's commitment to the affiliation and what it means to their constituents who depend on WPAHS for high quality affordable health care, as well as what it means for employment and economic stability in southwestern Pennsylvania. The Delegation points out that the recent agreement Highmark and WPAHS have reached with bondholders clears a significant hurdle in ensuring the financial solvency of the WPAHS system and acknowledges the importance of moving the affiliation forward in a timely fashion.

UPE is in agreement with the Delegation's comments and believes that this transaction will ensure the continued vitality of WPAHS by delivering value, choice, and high-quality healthcare services to the Western Pennsylvania community. UPE agrees

that maintaining continued provider choice is essential to preserving and stabilizing the healthcare market in the region and the Commonwealth.

UPE would like to thank the Allegheny County Democratic Delegation for its comments and support.

UPE

120 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

DATE: March 25, 2013

cc: Allegheny County Democratic Delegation
Representative Dom Costa, Chairman
Representative Dan Deasy, Vice-Chairman
Representative Adam Ravenstahl, Secretary
Representative Frank Dermody, Leader
Representative Dan Frankel, Caucus Chair
Representative Joe Markosek, Appropriations Chair
Representative Paul Costa
Representative Tony DeLuca
Representative Ed Gainey
Representative Marc Gergely
Representative Bill Kortz
Representative Nick Kotik
Representative Rob Matzie
Representative Erin Molchany
Representative Harry Readshaw
Representative Jake Wheatley, Jr.
Representative Jesse White
Jean Allegrini
Anita Boehm
Governor Tom Corbett