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Bybee, Cressinda

From: Chronister, Ronald [ronald.chronister@bipc.com]
Sent: Monday, April 22, 2013 11:08 AM
To: Bybee, Cressinda
Cc: jack@jackwagner.com
Subject: Response to Public Comment from Jack Wagner
Attachments: ScannedFile.pdf

Ms. Bybee,

Attached is a response to the public comment received by the Insurance Department from Jack Wagner. By copy of this email, I am sending the response to Mr. Wagner as well.

Ron Chronister

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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 Jack Wagner Dated April 15, 2013**

UPE is responding to the comment from Jack Wagner received by the Pennsylvania Insurance Department on April 17, 2013. The comment is numbered as Document 1338 on the Highmark/West Penn Cumulative Log page of the Pennsylvania Insurance Department website.

Mr. Wagner has expressed his support for the proposed affiliation of Highmark Inc. ("Highmark") and West Penn Allegheny Health System ("WPAHS"). Mr. Wagner highlights the importance of maintaining WPAHS as a stable employer and positive economic influence in the region. Mr. Wagner also notes that preserving consumer choice and competition in health care delivery will ensure that Western Pennsylvanians will continue to receive the highest quality of care possible at an affordable price.

UPE is in agreement with the comments of Mr. Wagner and believes that this transaction will ensure the continued vitality of WPAHS, delivering value, choice, and high-quality health care services to the Western Pennsylvania community. UPE also agrees that the proposed affiliation will sustain WPAHS as a premier employer and valuable community asset.

UPE would like to thank Mr. Wagner for his comments and support.

UPE
120 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

DATE: April 22, 2013

cc: Jack Wagner