

1373

**Brackbill, Robert**

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**From:** Lori Nagy [LNAGY@co.westmoreland.pa.us]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 19, 2013 1:58 PM  
**To:** Brackbill, Robert  
**Cc:** Ted Kopas  
**Subject:** FW: Message from "RNP002673573C87"  
**Attachments:** 201304191145.pdf

Please see attached letter from Westmoreland County Commissioner Ted Kopas.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** [copier@co.westmoreland.pa.us](mailto:copier@co.westmoreland.pa.us) [mailto:[copier@co.westmoreland.pa.us](mailto:copier@co.westmoreland.pa.us)]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 19, 2013 11:45 AM  
**To:** Lori Nagy  
**Subject:** Message from "RNP002673573C87"

This E-mail was sent from "RNP002673573C87" (MP C5502).

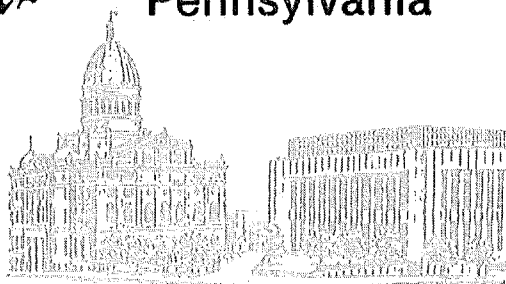
Scan Date: 04.19.2013 11:45:14 (-0400)  
Queries to: [copier@co.westmoreland.pa.us](mailto:copier@co.westmoreland.pa.us)

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# Westmoreland County Pennsylvania



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TDD 724-830-3802

**Ted Kopas**  
County Commissioner

**Courthouse Square, Suite 101  
2 North Main Street  
Greensburg, PA 15601-2494**

April 19, 2013

Robert Brackbill  
Chief, Company Licensing Division  
Pennsylvania Insurance Department  
1345 Strawberry Square  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Chief Brackbill:

I write to clarify my support for the Highmark-West Penn Allegheny Health System merger. While I stand by my support letter of February 22, 2012, I am concerned about new information that I hope will get proper scrutiny from the Pennsylvania Insurance Department. While I value competition among health systems and the jobs that it means for Westmoreland County residents, I want to be assured that the conditions are fair and that all facts are considered.

The Blackstone Advisory Partners and Compass Lexecon report posted on the Department's website contradicts testimony given at a Senate Majority Policy Committee public hearing in August 2012, where Highmark testified and promised that it would not harm Excelsa Health (one of Westmoreland County's largest employers) or not employ any of Excelsa's physicians. Yet the report stated its intention to move 41,135 admissions (page 145). This contradiction must be addressed as part of your final determination.

I remain in support of the merger, and continue to stay neutral in the ongoing dispute between Highmark and UPMC. But the Insurance Department must ensure that all questions, including the one I addressed above, are answered openly, honestly and completely.

Sincerely,

  
Ted Kopas  
County Commissioner