

Bybee, Cressinda

From: Chronister, Ronald [ronald.chronister@bipc.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2012 9:37 AM
To: Bybee, Cressinda
Subject: Response to Public Comment from Glenn and Janet Kohlhepp
Attachments: ScannedFile.pdf

Ms. Bybee: I am attaching a response from UPE to the comment received by the Insurance Department from Glenn and Janet Kohlhepp. I am also copying the Kohlhepps with the response by mail at the address appearing in the letterhead of the 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 Glenn and Janet Kohlhepp Dated March 30, 2012

UPE is responding to the comment from Glenn and Janet Kohlhepp received by the Pennsylvania Insurance Department April 2, 2012. The comment is numbered as Document 0338 on the Highmark/West Penn Cumulative Log page of the Pennsylvania Insurance Department website.

Mr. and Mrs. Kohlhepp have expressed their support for the proposed affiliation of Highmark Inc. ("Highmark") and West Penn Allegheny Health System ("WPAHS"). The Kohlhepps emphasize that this affiliation will provide the people of southwestern Pennsylvania with greater choice in, and access to more cost-efficient and higher quality care. The Kohlhepps also recognize the economic vitality that a strong WPAHS brings to the region.

UPE is in agreement with the comments of Glenn and Janet Kohlhepp, and believes the proposed affiliation is essential to preserving these valuable community resources for the people of Western Pennsylvania. UPE also believes that consumer choice is essential in improving the quality of healthcare and promoting efficiency and innovation.

UPE would like to thank the Kohlhepps for their comments and support.

UPE
120 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

DATE: April 19, 2012

cc: Glenn and Janet Kohlhepp