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Bybee, Cressinda

From: Chronister, Ronald [ronald.chronister@bipc.com]
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2012 10:41 AM
To: Bybee, Cressinda
Cc: ugrantme18@gmail.com
Subject: Response to Public Comment from Larry Grumet
Attachments: ScannedFile.pdf

Ms. Bybee: I am attaching a response from UPE to the comment received by the Insurance Department from Larry Grumet. I am also copying Mr. Grumet with the response by email.

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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 Larry Grumet Dated April 18, 2012**

UPE is responding to the comment from Larry Grumet received by the Pennsylvania Insurance Department April 18, 2012. The comment is numbered as Document 0561 on the Highmark/West Penn Cumulative Log page of the Pennsylvania Insurance Department website.

Mr. Grumet of Pittsburgh has stated his support for the proposed affiliation of Highmark Inc. ("Highmark") and West Penn Allegheny Health System ("WPAHS"). Mr. Grumet understands that this transaction will preserve WPAHS as a stable hospital system in the region and benefit Western Pennsylvanians by ensuring continued competition in the health care market. Mr. Grumet also notes the comments of Mayor John Fetterman of Braddock at the April 17 public hearing held by the Pennsylvania Insurance Department.

UPE is in agreement with the comments of Mr. Grumet and believes the proposed affiliation is essential to preserving valuable community resources for the people of Western Pennsylvania, particularly in light of Mayor Fetterman's experience in Braddock.

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

UPE
120 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

DATE: May 14, 2012

cc: Larry Grumet