Bybee, Cressinda

From:

Chronister, Ronald [ronald.chronister@bipc.com]

Sent:

Thursday, April 19, 2012 9:44 AM

To:

Bybee, Cressinda

Subject:

Response to Public Comment from Laura Guyaux

Attachments:

ScannedFile.pdf

Ms. Bybee: I am attaching a response from UPE to the comment received by the Insurance Department from Laura Guyaux, a registered nurse and nurse educator. Ms. Guyaux's comment letter did not include an address to which a response could be sent.

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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 Laura Guyaux Dated March 27, 2012

UPE is responding to the comment from Laura Guyaux received by the Pennsylvania Insurance Department March 30, 2012. The comment is numbered as Document 0370 on the Highmark/West Penn Cumulative Log page of the Pennsylvania Insurance Department website.

Ms. Guyaux, a registered nurse and nurse educator, has expressed her support for the proposed affiliation of Highmark Inc. ("Highmark") and West Penn Allegheny Health System ("WPAHS"). Ms. Guyaux articulates that preserving competition in the provision and finance of healthcare in the region will ultimately benefit consumers and the local economy.

UPE is in agreement with the comments of Ms. Guyaux, 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 Ms. Guyaux, for her comments and support.

UPE

120 Fifth Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15222

DATE: April 19, 2012

cc: Laura Guyaux, RN, BSN, MEd.