



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
SENATE
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591
SENATE REPUBLICAN OFFICES

September 19, 2016

Mr. Timothy J. Curry
Deputy Commissioner
Connecticut Insurance Department
PO Box 816
Hartford, CT 06142-0816

In light of Commissioner Wade's recent decision to recuse herself from the Anthem-Cigna merger application, we are writing to request that you (1) assign new staff with no past or present ties to either Cigna or Anthem to oversee the process and (2) restart the entire review process over with fresh eyes and leadership to avoid any appearance of impropriety

As you know, we, along with many others including the Connecticut State Medical Society and consumer advocates, had been asking Commissioner Wade to step aside for months. Instead, she stubbornly chose to maintain control over the merger application despite her obvious appearance of a conflict of interest, including her past employment at Cigna as a lobbyist and her husband's current employment there as an attorney and his ownership of stock options. In fact, the Office of State Ethics has opened an investigation to determine whether she had not only an appearance of a conflict, but an actual legal conflict of interest such that she should have recused herself from day one. As you are aware, when Comm. Wade was faced with a subpoena for documents which arguably could have conclusively demonstrated if there was a conflict or not, Comm. Wade decided to remove herself from this matter rather than comply with the subpoena.

The Anthem merger application was filed a year ago. Over the past year, the Department has engaged in a review of the application that has included meetings with the parties and their representatives, telephone conferences, requests for documents and information and other actions. All of these actions have been potentially influenced by the Commissioner and tainted by her conflict of interest. It is impossible for the public, stakeholders and policy makers to have full confidence in the review process under these circumstances.

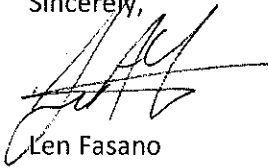
We believe it is necessary to not only remove the Commissioner from the process and appoint unbiased professional staff to oversee the merger application, but to re-start the process with a clean slate. The answer to a question is often dictated by the information obtained, the resources reviewed, and the people consulted. All of these can be tainted by the personal biases and predispositions of the reviewer. In this case, the Commissioner's involvement for the past year has likely influenced the outcome.

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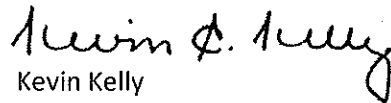
Therefore, to restore public trust in the merger review process and ensure a final decision that is free from bias and the potential taint of a conflict of interest, we believe it is imperative that the Department re-start the merger review process from the beginning.

Thank you for your time and attention, and we look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Len Fasano
State Senate Minority Leader



Kevin Kelly
State Senator, Ranking Member of the
Insurance and Real Estate Committee