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Submitted on 26 January 2024, 12:37 PM

LDI staff member/division to email	Health Insurance
Your First Name	Craig
Your Last Name	Gauthier
Your Organization (if applicable)	
Your Title (if applicable)	MD
Your Email	lsugoat@bellsouth.net
Your Phone Number	3373679411
Your Message	<p>Greetings Commissioner, The short version: I am writing to ask you to please do not, please do not, allow the merger/purchase of Blue Cross blue shield by Elevance. The whole deal: I just opened my mail in packet from blue Cross blue shield regarding this and was horrified as I began to read through the booklet. Its basically the description of a socialistic/federal-type driven huge "healthcare partner" coming in to remove yet another layer of patient choice and citizen options. The obvious next step to nationally socialized medicine. Using all the correct buzz words to make one feel it's a good thing they describe how patient encounters will be reduced through the use of telemedicine, people will be "encouraged" to eat certain ways, pharmaceutical limitations will ensue, independence will be discouraged, and</p>

fees will be reduced as those who can afford it will pay more (equity). Guaranteed is forced compliance and huge software expenditures; and they offer this having no shame whatsoever- in fact attempting to bribe people with a non-guaranteed "subject to reevaluation" \$3000, and threats that one's chosen insurance company would have to pay \$75 million if the deal does not go through. It stinks of nothing more than exactly what has been happening across our great republic under the watch of two of the last three presidents. And the Blue Cross directors, who apparently don't have enough money yet, get to go to a foundation where they get paid the same amount of money for now doing nothing. It's a rotten deal. In my opinion, any patriotic citizen would have to be a complete fool to let these people in the door. Our hard-working taxpaying people will suffer, if so. I was very happy to see that, as I went to write to the Louisiana state medical society regarding this, that they recognize the negativity of this as well, as reflected on their website. I am begging you as a citizen and patient, not as a physician, to say no. I have already been whittled down so badly as a physician that none of it really matters anymore, regarding the harm that it will do to the once revered medical profession. In fact, I'm really only a "provider" now, just like the growing number of people that don't even understand how the "medical guidelines" that they must follow were construed, but share the same title (a topic for another day). Thank you for your service to our citizenry, Craig Gauthier MD

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