

1018 LeJeune Rd.
Oakdale, La. 71463
Jan. 24, 2024

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JAN 29 2024

Commissioner of Insurance
Legal Division

To: David Caldwell, La. Dept. of Insurance
Re: BCBSLA "Reorganization Plan"

Dear Mr. Caldwell,

I have been a longtime policyholder with BCBSLA, and while I am unable to attend the Feb. 14-15 Public Hearing, I wish to voice my objection to its "conversion" to a subsidiary of Elevance.

While reading reviews about Elevance, I came across this rather disturbing statement by Rick Pollack, President and CEO of the American Hospital Assn. made Aug. 4, 2023:

"Elevance is particularly notorious for slow or no payment to hospitals and pre-authorization delays that put patient's health at risk and contribute to clerical burnout". (see aha.org, "AHA Statement on Report from Elevance Health"). He went on to comment on the strain these practices place on rural hospitals in particular.

I am also concerned about the \$3 Billion the Board wishes to place in a "Trust". Why not keep those funds in the BCBSLA reserves, especially as they mention concerns with finances & litigation? (See "Notice of Special Meeting" booklet, pg. 44).

Please keep our healthcare local! Do not authorize this "Reorganization Plan" between BCBSLA and Elevance.

Sincerely,
Kathryn Bergeron
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