



July 31, 2023

Commissioner Donelon
Louisiana Department of Insurance
P.O. Box 94214
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9214

Dear Commissioner Donelon:

On behalf of the Board of the Northshore Community Foundation, I respectfully submit this letter as our support for the proposed acquisition of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana (BCBSLA) by Elevance Health.

As the community foundation serving 500,000 residents of St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, St. Helena, and Washington Parishes, we are committed to improving the quality of life of those that call our part of Louisiana home. As an organization that works daily to overcome the challenges our people face, we are excited about the proposed acquisition of BCBSLA by Elevance Health. This transaction has the potential to exponentially advance access to healthcare innovation, services, and capabilities for Louisianians at a much faster rate than BCBSLA could do alone. Elevance Health's almost \$4 billion investment in healthcare services and capabilities is impressive, and we deserve to benefit from these investments.

In addition to the increased access to new healthcare insurance capabilities, I am especially excited about *The Accelerate Louisiana Initiative*. With more than \$3 billion in assets, this foundation will have the ability to make a material difference in the health and lives of the people of Louisiana. And the fact that it will be solely focused on Louisiana is unprecedented and impressive. Louisiana continues to lag behind the nation in many health indicators, and unprecedented steps are called for in order to improve the health of the more than four million people who call Louisiana home. BCBSLA has worked with our Foundation since our inception in 2007 to support our local population, especially in times of unprecedented economic and environmental impacts from a myriad of events.

We fully support the bold step BCBSLA has taken to secure its future, and we strongly recommend that the Louisiana Department of Insurance approve this transaction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Leslie Landry".

Leslie Landry
President & CEO

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Greg Pellegrini".

Greg Pellegrini
Board Chairman

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AUG 04 2023

**Commissioner of Insurance
Legal Division**