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July 26, 2023

Mr. David Caldwell
Louisiana Department of Insurance
P. O. Box 94214
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9214

Subject: Comments on Plan of Reorganization Hearing for Louisiana Health Service & Indemnity Company d/b/a Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana

Dear Mr. Caldwell:

Our company is enrolled with BCBSLA for health insurance coverage plans offered to our employees. We have been very satisfied with the options and service since the initial enrollment in 2018. I serve as the Group Leader to communicate with BCBSLA and handle enrollments for our company. I received a Notice of Public Hearing for the company, but only one of our insured employees received a notice.

The Plan of Reorganization calls for the acquisition of BCBSLA by Elevance Health, Inc. and BCBSLA to be converted from a mutual insurance company to a stock insurance company. We also understand that as a stock insurance company, BCBSLA would become a "for profit" company rather than a "non-profit" company as it is currently. Has the Commissioner's office reviewed any historical data on changes in both premium costs to insureds and claim payment approvals, rejections, and overall quality in the 14 states with previous Blue Cross Blue Shield acquisitions by Elevance Health? The outcomes would be very relevant to the Commissioner's decision for the Plan in Louisiana.

We cannot comprehend any way that this acquisition would be in the best interests of the policyholders and members. By the nature of a for profit company, adding a profit margin to the cost of the insurance would make insurance coverage more costly to the insureds and/or their employers. Please consider rejecting any Plan of Reorganization that will result in increased premiums or decreased benefits because the cost of health care coverage is already burdensome for both individuals and employers. Your due diligence and consideration will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Martha C. Foy
Chief Executive Officer

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AUG 03 2023

Commissioner of Insurance
Legal Division