

ANTHONY M. DeLUCA, MEMBER

115 IRVIS OFFICE BUILDING
P.O. BOX 202032
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2032
PHONE: (717) 783-1011
FAX: (717) 772-9937

7205 SALTSBURG ROAD
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15235
PHONE: (412) 793-2448
FAX: (412) 793-7495



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

INSURANCE, CHAIRMAN
GAME & FISHERIES

DEMOCRATIC POLICY
LEGISLATIVE BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE

CAUCUSES

ARTHRITIS & OSTEOPOROSIS CAUCUS
AUTISM CAUCUS
CHILDREN'S CAUCUS
COAL CAUCUS
FIREFIGHTERS' & EMERGENCY
SERVICES, CHAIRMAN EMERITUS
STEEL CAUCUS

May 6, 2010

Honorable Edward G. Rendell
Governor
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Governor Rendell,

On May 4, the House Insurance Committee held a public hearing that centered on House Bill 2455. This bill has been sponsored by Majority Leader Eachus and addresses the looming insurance crisis that results from the expiration of the Community Health Reinvestment Agreement (CHR) on December 31 of this year. As you know, the CHR is the major source of funding for the adultBasic program and if the CHR expires, without an alternative funding source, upwards of 50,000 low income individuals will have no health insurance.

At the hearing, each of the four Blues Plans expressed their opposition to House Bill 2455, and their continuing opposition to extending the CHR. In addition, neither the Blues plans nor the Insurance Department- the executive agency responsible for administering the adultBasic program- have undertaken any effort to institute or initiate a notification process to those citizens whose insurance, and thus their access to medical care, is threatened by this series of events.

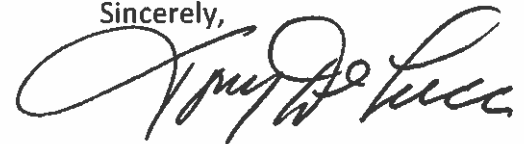
I am calling upon you to use the full authority of your office to see that this issue is addressed as expeditiously as possible. Obviously extending the CHR until 2014, when the federal health care reform goes into full effect, is the ultimate solution for all involved. However if this is not achievable, the CHR must be extended for a reasonable period of time beyond December 31, 2010. Failing either of these goals, it is incumbent upon both the Insurance Department and the Blues Plans to take all necessary and appropriate steps to notify the current population served by adultBasic, that their

health insurance will be cancelled at the end of this year. These steps should be taken sooner than later so that these individuals can begin to explore and consider their options.

Governor, at this time when the nation is focused on reforming the health care and health insurance markets, Pennsylvania must be a leader. We can do so by ensuring that every citizen of this Commonwealth has access to reasonable health insurance. AdultBasic has been an extremely successful program, and we need to make certain that it continues as such. If we cannot do so, it is incumbent upon us to notify the insureds of these possible unfortunate events.

As always, I look forward to working with you and all involved parties. Your prompt attention and review of this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony DeLuca". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "T" and "D".

Tony DeLuca, Chairman
House Insurance Committee

Cc: Honorable Todd Eachus