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November 7, 2017

Jill Hummel
President and General Manager of
Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Connecticut
108 Leigus Road
Wallingford, CT 06492

Elliot Joseph
President and CEO of Hartford Health Care
One State Street
Suite 19
Hartford, CT 06103

Dear Jill and Elliot:

On behalf of some of the largest employers in Connecticut and the region – with approximately 300,000 covered lives – we urge an immediate end to the ongoing disruption to health care access that has resulted from Hartford HealthCare’s and Anthem’s failure to resolve this contract dispute in a timely and responsible fashion.

We expect a resolution that improves health care quality and access, and ensures that high quality care remains affordable for both patients and employers. It is in everyone’s collective best interest – including your own – to immediately return to the negotiating table and resolve this dispute once and for all.

This ongoing impasse threatens health care access, causes financial distress for thousands of people who depend on your services, and compromises your own continued strength and reputation in Connecticut’s health care industry.

First and foremost, a resolution is needed for the thousands of patients experiencing disruption to their care and access to providers – creating unnecessary stress and anxiety.

As the impasse drags into its fifth week, our employees, members and their families are expressing heightened frustration with both Hartford HealthCare and Anthem. Their frustration and desire for in-network care is driving many to consider other health care options. Over the last several weeks we have assisted our employees and members in finding alternative providers, and will continue to do so. As you surely know, once patients connect with new providers, there is a good chance that they will never return to their former providers. Similarly, the longer this continues the likelihood increases that this impasse will affect employees’ and members’ future decisions about which health carrier they select during open enrollment.

For the sake of our employees and members, all Connecticut residents and for your own future in Connecticut’s health care industry, we urge you to end this unnecessary and unacceptable deadlock that compromises the wellbeing of all of those you serve.

Sincerely,

Kevin Lembo
Connecticut State Comptroller

Shari G. Cantor
Mayor, Town of West Hartford

Bob Tessier
Executive Director, CT Coalition
of Taft-Hartley Health Funds

Kevin Brown “Red Eagle”
Chairman, Mohegan Tribe

Matthew W. Hart
Town Manager, Town of West Hartford