

ANDRÉ CARSON
7TH DISTRICT, INDIANA

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
CAPITAL MARKETS, INSURANCE AND
GOVERNMENT SPONSORED ENTERPRISES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1407

Mr. Doug Webber
Acting Commissioner
Indiana Department of Insurance
311 West Washington Street, Suite 300
Indianapolis, IN, 46204

Dear Acting Commissioner Webber:

Given the recent public scrutiny and outrage over 39 percent hikes in Anthem health insurance premiums in California, I am very concerned that many Hoosier consumers are also being hit hard with similar skyrocketing rates.

According to the *Indianapolis Star* article "Hoosiers livid over insurance increase," your office has received complaints from Hoosier customers who have seen their own premiums go up anywhere from 31 to 38 percent.

It is my understanding that Indiana Department of Insurance (IDOI) reviews and approves all health insurance rate increases before they take effect. Given this authority, I presume your office has a record of those rate hikes that have been signed-off on. Therefore, I am asking that IDOI provide my office with documentation outlining all approved rate hikes dating back to June 30, 2009 for any individual and family plans offered by WellPoint and its subsidiaries, including Anthem. This documentation should include the insurance premium amount prior to any approved increase, as well as the final rate approved by IDOI and the date of approval. If possible, to save on costs of paper and materials, I would prefer this information in a digital format, such as an Excel spreadsheet. Please note that I am not interested in any personal information (e.g. customer name or address).

Secondly, as part of California's actuarial review of insurance rate hikes, it requires health insurers to prove that 70 percent of premiums are used to cover the costs of actual health care services. It is my understanding that Indiana does not have these same requirements, even though companies like WellPoint, which last quarter alone earned \$2.7 billion, continue to see extraordinary profits. Given this trend of skyrocketing health insurance rates and near-record profits by insurers, I would like to know if the State of Indiana will begin implementing a similar benchmark for insurers that requires a majority of premiums go toward actual benefits. If this requirement is not being considered, please explain why.

While I know the data regarding rate-hikes will take time to compile, it is my hope and desire that this request for information can be met before the Congressional hearing scheduled to take place in the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations on February 24.

Thank you in advance for your timely response to this matter. Please feel free to call my District Director Justin Ohlemiller at 317-283-6516 if you have any questions regarding this inquiry.

Sincerely,



Congressman André Carson

cc: Angela Braly, WellPoint CEO