

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4802

October 31, 2012

Mr. David Ramsey  
President and CEO  
Charleston Area Medical Center  
Post Office Box 1547  
Charleston, West Virginia 25326-1547

Dear Dave,

I am writing to express my serious concerns about the breakdown in contract negotiations between Humana and the Charleston Area Medical Center (CAMC) in West Virginia. We are again facing a situation where access to health services for West Virginia seniors may be seriously curtailed because of business decisions that seemingly put profits before patients. I strongly urge both parties to resume negotiations and resolve this situation well before the end of the Medicare open enrollment period on December 7, so that our state's seniors will have all the facts and enough time to decide on the Medicare plan that best meets their needs.

As you know, this is the second time in less than a year that a contract dispute between a private Medicare Advantage plan and our state's hospitals has jeopardized coverage for seniors. The recent announcement that negotiations have ended between Humana and CAMC again puts seniors in the middle of your dispute. Fortunately, the parties involved were able to reach a resolution in January, and I am hopeful that, by working together, you can do so again.

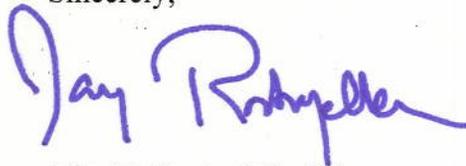
Since the announcement, I have heard from a number of seniors who are gravely concerned about what this means for their access to health care and the doctors that they know and trust. We are now in the middle of Medicare's Open Enrollment period and the breakdown in contract negotiations has left seniors confused and unsure of how to proceed. The amount of time that seniors have left to select a Medicare plan for 2013 is dwindling. It is unacceptable for seniors to be put in the middle of your ongoing dispute and continually left in limbo. Our collective goal must be to improve access to health care coverage for West Virginians, not restrict it.

As you proceed with further negotiations, I request that you immediately inform current patients enrolled in Humana Medicare Advantage and those seeking more information about Medicare Advantage that your hospital is not currently planning to participate in Humana's network for 2013. I also ask that you keep current Humana patients and potential Humana enrollees informed of any changes in your plan participation resulting from the ongoing negotiations. It is imperative that seniors continuously receive accurate and timely information about their Medicare coverage options before the conclusion of Open Enrollment, so that they have all the information necessary to make an informed decision about their Medicare coverage.

*Rockefeller Letter to CAMC – Page 2*  
*October 31, 2012*

I appreciate your prompt attention to this matter and, again, I urge both parties to return to the negotiating table and settle this issue prior to December 7. Seniors in West Virginia are depending on it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jay Rockefeller". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "J" and "R".

John D. Rockefeller IV