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UHCAN Ohio Calls on Ohio Dept. of Insurance to Hold Hearings on Consumer Impact of Proposed Health Insurance Companies' Mergers

This statement can be attributed to Steve Wagner, Executive Director of UHCAN Ohio.

“Today UHCAN Ohio joined other consumer advocates who [submitted comments](#) requesting the Ohio Department of Insurance to hold hearings on the two proposed mergers of health insurance companies, Cigna with Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield and Aetna with Humana.

Our concern is for the millions of Ohioans currently insured by these companies and the potential impact the mergers would have on the affordability of coverage in Ohio's insurance market. Ohio already faces some of the [highest health insurance premiums](#) in the country. One of the major culprits of Ohio's high premiums is the [lack of competition](#) among insurers and these mergers will only make matters worse.

We urge Director Taylor to hold a public hearing on each merger to thoroughly explore and evaluate the impacts these mergers could have on Ohio consumers, particularly in the Medicare Advantage market. We believe ensuring and increasing competition within Ohio's health insurance market is critical to improving care, lowering costs, and providing access to providers and benefits for all Ohioans”

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UHCAN Ohio is a statewide non-profit working to build the voice of consumers to achieve quality, affordable, accessible health care for all Ohioans. www.uhcanohio.org