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Subject: Proposed Declaratory Ruling No. 2016-A
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Legal Division
Connecticut Office of State Ethics
18-20 Trinity Street 2nd Floor
Hartford, CT 06106

To Whom It May Concern:

The proposed merger between Anthem and Cigna is one that would have far reaching consequences for the affordability of healthcare and access to healthcare for consumers in Connecticut.

Connecticut's Insurance Commissioner, Katherine Wade must recuse herself or be recused from the regulatory proceedings surrounding a merger that has such far-reaching consequences. Her previous professional ties to the health insurance industry and her family ties to Cigna present a clear conflict of interest. By extension, her role in these proceedings clearly compromises the credibility of the State Government's primary role which is to protect its citizens. Given the well documented history of health insurance prices in states where health insurance companies operate with little competition, the proposed Anthem-Cigna merger requires a regulatory process that is transparent and beyond reproach.

I urge of the Office of State Ethics to respect the State's citizens by ruling that Commissioner Wade's role presents a conflict of interest in these proceedings and stand for a transparent process that allows a full vetting of the merger and its effects on consumers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted

James H. Dean
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