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## **‘BIG INSURANCE: SICK OF IT!’ WV HCAN Coalition Joins in National Day of Action Demands REAL HEALTH CARE REFORM**

**Protest at United Building in Charleston Demands Coventry CEO Sign Pledge Supporting True Health Care Reform and Ending Insurance Abuses**

*Charleston, WV* – Several West Virginia organizations, joined 200 other [Health Care for America Now](#) (HCAN) protests across the nation today to rally outside the Charleston headquarters of Coventry Insurance in downtown Charleston. The protesters demanded that Coventry pledge to support real health care reform and end bad health insurance industry practices. Members from AFL-CIO; NASW-WV; SEIU-1199; CWA; and WV Citizen Action joined in the event.

“Big Insurance companies are spending \$641,000 a day to oppose health care reform. They should be using this money to provide health care instead,” commented Sherry McKinney, Political Director of SEIU-1199.

“If Big Insurance wins, we loose,” stated Gary Zuckett,” Exec. Dir. of WV Citizen Action Group. “They’re giving millions in campaign contributions to steer reforms that will add billions to their profits and do nothing for the rest of us,” Zuckett declared.

According to a report released in June, Coventry and Acordia have over half of the private insurance market in WV. [See report here](#). Coventry is also one of the top 15 Insurance companies that Sen. Rockefeller has sent a letter requesting the amount of premium dollars they spend on health care.

### **The pledge demands that were asked of Coventry Insurance:**

- Not to stand between a doctor and a patient when it comes to deciding what care that patient needs.
- Not to deny coverage or raise rates for individuals or businesses based on a pre-existing medical condition and end arbitrary caps on payments for necessary medical care.
- Terminate all policies or incentives that reward employees financially or otherwise for denying care and rejecting claims.
- Not use any resources – including funds, employees, and facilities — to lobby against and oppose any aspect of the health reform proposals supported by President Obama and being considered by members of the United States Congress, including but not limited to a national public health insurance option available on day one.

This protest is part of a national day of action called “**Big Insurance: Sick of it**” with 200 similar protests outside of Big Insurance offices all across the nation.

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