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Rebecca Grill  
West Allis City Council  
7525 W. Greenfield Ave.  
West Allis, WI 53214

FEB 12 2015

CITY OF WEST ALLIS  
CAO

My name is Robert Morrow. I am a retired City of West Allis Firefighter with 25+ years of service to the City of West Allis and its citizens. My wife of 39 years is Judith Morrow. We are finally empty nesters.

We are petitioning, and requesting an exemption from the City of West Allis Anthem Healthcare Insurance Blue Priority Network Plan the city is enrolled in.

We are requesting to be enrolled in the Blue Preferred Network and excused from the Blue Priority Network. There's a good chance I am the only retired City of West Allis employee living in Columbia county. How many retirees can there be in Columbia county? [REDACTED]

Per the map provided by Anthem, Columbia County is in the Blue Priority service area. Columbia County is bordered to the north and northwest by Adams and Juneau counties. Adams and Juneau counties are in the white Blue Preferred Network.

We live approximately four miles from Divine Savior Hospital and the physicians we use for our daily healthcare needs (which currently are in network under Humana). Under the current Blue Priority Network which we would be enrolled in, we do not have a choice of Physicians to choose from for our healthcare. Although we have a UW Healthcare Clinic in Portage, we still do not have a choice in doctors. The clinic although it has 2 doctors, and 2 PA's, has only one doctor in network, and that's a female doctor, foreign educated. The other doctor and 2 PA's are not in network. We would be forced to travel over 45 miles one way for healthcare. That's over a 2 hr. drive roundtrip for a doctor visit. I don't find that acceptable. Currently I can drive 7 minutes to see my doctor, hospital and services.

The next closest in network providers are in Lodi, or Montello, over 16 miles away, both approximately 35-40 minutes away. We would have to use UW Hospital as our hospital as the hospitals in Green Lake and Watertown are equally as far as UW.

The residents of Adams and Juneau counties which are in the Blue Preferred Network (the white coverage area) are surrounded by blue counties and live a minimum 30 minutes from Divine Savior Hospital and its services and providers. Divine Savior and its physicians are in the Blue Preferred Network. We feel we are being discriminated against for living too close to an "in network facility". Under the new preferred plans, Adams and Juneau county residents can utilize our local hospital and physicians while I can not. Hardly logical.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

To enroll in the HDHP plan is not an option. I will be going on medicare within one year and there is no medicare D coverage. The expense of the HDHP is not conducive to the fixed income of a retiree. My wife is 61 years old, so we will need to remain on the cities coverage until she turns 65. As we get inevitably older, we need to be closer to our healthcare providers not further away. It makes no sense that the two bordering counties of Adams and Juneau are in the Blue Preferred Network and Columbia county is not.

The above reasons are why we feel we should be granted an exemption from the Blue Priority Network and be allowed to enroll in the Blue Preferred Network and stop being discriminated against. Columbia County should be included in the white Blue Preferred Network.

*Thank you*

*Bob & Judy Morrow*