



PHARMACY

December 6th, 2018

Peter Mucchetti, Chief
Healthcare and Consumer Products Section,
Antitrust Division
Department of Justice
450 Fifth Street NW, Suite 4100
Washington, DC 20530

I am writing this letter to voice my grave concern over the upcoming CVS Aetna merger. As an owner of an independent pharmacy in rural Arkansas I have witnessed first-hand the monopolistic tactics of CVS for over 25 years. I am concerned that if this merger is allowed to go through that they will use these tactics in the medical profession as well. As my primary payer, CVS controls my price and income and then as this situation becomes direr to my business then they send me letters to my business offering to buy my business. This is a monopoly in the truest of forms! If they are allowed to enter the health insurance/medical market place the healthcare system as we know it will be done.

The healthcare system is broken. It needs to be fixed, but not by one company that has a monopoly. If you really want to fix the healthcare system you need to empower the people that are on the frontlines dealing with patient's everyday- PHARMACIST! Instead, the current policies along with CVS are seeking to eliminate this profession all together. Our business has been providing healthcare services to our

community for over 90 years. If changes are not made soon, and I mean very soon, our time is limited!

Thanks for your consideration,
James W. Bethea Pharm.D.

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