



**Testimony  
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan/Blue Care Network  
Public Hearing  
October 16, 2008**

On behalf of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (BCBSM) and Blue Care Network (BCN), I would like to thank the Commission for this opportunity to testify. BCBSM and BCN continue to support the Certificate of Need (CON) program, which is designed to ensure the delivery of cost-effective, high quality health care to Michigan residents.

Hospital Beds

As we stated at the September 16th CON commission meeting, BCBSM and BCN supported updating the Hospital Bed Review Standards and applauded the Commission's proposed action to do so. These proposed standards serve an important function by clarifying and updating the language including a recalculated hospital bed need based on more current conditions. Keeping the standards as relevant as possible by using current data is vitally important. We commend the CON Commission for moving this updated language forward for proposed action.

BCBSM/BCN commends the CON Commissioners and MDCH staff for their work in maintaining CON as a strong, vibrant program that continues to help ensure the delivery of high quality, safe and effective care to patients across the state. We thank the Commission for their continued vigilance on these very important issues to the citizens of the state of Michigan.