



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
HEALTH POLICY COMMISSION  
50 MILK STREET, 8TH FLOOR  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02109  
(617) 979-1400

STUART H. ALTMAN  
CHAIR

DAVID M. SELTZ  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

July 15, 2016

Mr. David Phelps  
President and CEO  
Berkshire Medical Center  
725 North Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Dear Mr. Phelps:

The Massachusetts Health Policy Commission (HPC), in collaboration with the Office of the Attorney General and the Center for Health Information and Analysis, is required by state law to host the [Annual Health Care Cost Trends Hearing](#). The 2016 Hearing will be held on October 17 and 18. The Hearing serves as a public examination into the trends and drivers of the Commonwealth's health care costs through the engagement of experts and presentation of public testimony.

The HPC has identified Berkshire Medical Center as an organization required to submit pre-filed written testimony in anticipation of the 2016 Hearing. Over the past four years, pre-filed testimony has afforded the HPC an opportunity to engage more deeply with market participants. Under state law, the HPC requires pre-filed testimony from a cross-section of health care market participants, including providers (e.g., acute care hospitals, community health centers, physician groups), health plans, and municipalities. All written testimony is publicly posted on our website and used to inform ongoing policy development work and promote public transparency.

Berkshire Medical Center's written testimony should be submitted to [HPC-Testimony@state.ma.us](mailto:HPC-Testimony@state.ma.us) by **September 2, 2016**. All testimony will be a public record. Berkshire Medical Center should expect to receive an email in August indicating whether it will be called to provide in-person testimony at the 2016 Hearing.

Your assistance and active participation in the 2016 Hearing will contribute to the ongoing public dialogue about how to develop a more affordable, effective, and accountable health care system. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Seltz".

David Seltz  
Executive Director

CC: Karen Tseng, Chief, Health Care Division, Office of the Attorney General  
CC: Steve McCabe, Acting Director, Center for Health Information and Analysis