

AHA Asks To Testify Against Insurance Mergers At House Judiciary Hearings

The American Hospital Association (AHA) is asking the House Judiciary Committee to let it participate in an upcoming series of hearings on competition in the healthcare marketplace. The hospital group wants to use the forum in part to attack the proposed Aetna-Humana and Anthem-Cigna mergers, which a former policy director for the Federal Trade Commission says are likely to be blocked by the Department of Justice. The AHA says that the potential mergers are anti-competitive.

America's Health Insurance Plans said that health plans' efforts to keep coverage affordable and deliver better value are "being undercut by years of anticompetitive hospital consolidation" that she alleges increased premiums, limited health care choices and lead to higher prices for patients.