

**From:** [Questions \(VDH\)](#)  
**To:** [Boswell, Peter \(VDH\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Wellmont- Mountain State Merger  
**Date:** Thursday, February 09, 2017 3:40:01 PM

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**From:** Phil Cheek [mailto:sgtcheek@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 08, 2017 11:35 AM  
**To:** Questions (VDH)  
**Subject:** Proposed Wellmont- Mountain State Merger

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

I am writing in opposition to the proposed merger of Wellmont Health System and Mountain State Health Alliance in Southwest Virginia. Wellmont Health System's past actions have done nothing to improve medical care in Southwest Virginia. In fact, Wellmont closed the Lee County Hospital and caused people to have to travel as much as 30 miles to the nearest hospital. I do not believe this merger would be in the best interest of the employees of either system and I doubt that it will improve anything as far as health care in Southwest Virginia. On the contrary, it will create a monopoly of the health care systems in Southwest Virginia and East Tennessee that will leave few choices and virtually no competition in the health care industry in this region. Thank you.

Phillip Cheek  
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