

Submitted on Tue, 03/29/2022 - 12:00

**Name**

Julie French

**Affiliation, if applicable**

The Vermont Teddy Bear Co.

**Town/City**

Shelburne

**Topic**

Health Insurance Rate Review

**Comment**

Dear Chair Mullin and Members of the Green Mountain Care Board,

We are disturbed to hear of UVM's request to increase their rates as of April 1st. It would be extremely unfortunate and unfair to permit this increase as it would have a considerable impact on our company's health care costs - at a point when we cannot plan accordingly. The premiums set for our health plan are predicated on expected claim costs projected on the rates approved by the GMCB for the year. To change those rates drastically impacts our claims cost and the potential for the return of any surplus.

We do not understand how UVM's request (or any hospital's request) can even be considered at this point in time. We, like all Vermont businesses, have to continually adjust to the changing landscape in our markets. We would expect hospitals to be on much stronger footing to do the same - particularly, in light of the reserves they maintain.

**Your public comment will be shared with the Board. To promote transparency, the Board sometimes posts public comments on its website. Are you okay with the Board posting your comment? If no, your comment will be sent to the Board but not posted.**

Yes