PATRICK K. RYAN
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

November 24, 2026

Patrick H. Conway, M.D.
Chief Executive Officer, Optum
1 Optum Circle
Eden Prairie, MN 55344

Dear Dr. Conway,

I am writing to you today regarding Optum's reported closure of certain Hudson Valley medical practices, including pediatric care in Rhinebeck, NY. On Friday, November 13th, Optum sent letters to several of my constituents saying that they would no longer be able to receive pediatric care in Rhinebeck. After my office received initial reports of this closure, I encouraged members of our community to complete my community inquiry to better understand the potential impacts. In less than a week, I have received more than 600 responses, detailing deeply personal concerns about how the closure of these facilities would deprive our region of essential services, and force families to travel unreasonable distances to access basic care. All the while, Optum has issued opaque, often contradictory, statements regarding its plans for these critical healthcare facilities.

While I understand some of the specifics are still to be ironed out, Optum cannot expect our community to sit tight after being notified their children won't be able to see their doctor. We deserve answers now – shuttering essential services without explanation or satisfactory alternatives is completely unacceptable. I'm urging Optum to immediately clarify its plans regarding locations in Kingston, Rhinebeck, and Lake Katrine and for any other sites that will see services reduced, relocated, or eliminated as your pending deals with local health systems are finalized. In addition, I ask Optum to guarantee uninterrupted care for patients who rely on those facilities and provide a detailed patient transition plan with assurances for full continuity of care.

Also caught in the crossfire of these closures are the hardworking healthcare professionals who work at these facilities, many of whom have dedicated their careers to providing quality, accessible care in the Hudson Valley. My constituents are demanding immediate answers on whether they will be able to continue seeing the providers that have come to know and care for their children for years – and these doctors deserve assurances that they will be able to continue practicing in the communities they call home.

In its November 13th letter to our community, Optum reported these closures could happen as soon as the end of this month. Optum cannot close these facilities without guaranteeing uninterrupted care for nearby residents and ensuring patients retain access to essential services. I look forward to your prompt and detailed response.

Sincerely,



Patrick K. Ryan
Member of Congress