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July 28, 2022

VIA EMAIL ONLY

Mitchell Li, M.D.
Founder
Take Medicine Back
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Re: Corporate Practice of Medicine

Dear Doctor Li:

Thank you for your recent letter to the Attorney General expressing your concerns about HCA's ownership and management of Mission Hospital in Asheville, North Carolina and about the corporate practice of medicine, generally.

The Attorney General shares many of your concerns about the increasing role of for-profit corporations in the practice of medicine and about HCA's corporate management of Mission Hospital. Throughout the recent wave of hospital consolidations across North Carolina, the Attorney General has been fighting hard to ensure that North Carolinians continue to have access to affordable, quality health care. As just one recent example, the Attorney General recently filed an amicus curiae brief in support of the plaintiffs in one of the antitrust lawsuits against HCA that you reference in your letter.

Your letter raises a number of complex issues about HCA and the corporate practice of medicine doctrine. These include legal issues about the current application of this doctrine in North Carolina, as well as fact-specific issues about how HCA may be organized to circumvent the doctrine. The Attorney General has directed his staff to take a closer look at each of the issues raised in your letter to assist him in evaluating whether there are additional steps our office can take to address these issues.

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Thank you again for bringing these concerns to the Attorney General's attention.

Sincerely,



Brian D. Rabinovitz
Special Deputy Attorney General