

# Dickenson County Chamber of Commerce

"Shopping Locally Enhances our Community"



www.dickensonchamber.net

September 16, 2016

The Honorable Terry Kilgore, Chairman  
Southwest Virginia Health Authority  
851 French Moore Jr. Boulevard, Suite 178  
Abingdon, VA 24210

Dear Mr. Kilgore,

The Dickenson County Chamber of Commerce supports the merger of Wellmont Health System and Mountain States Health Alliance to an integrated single system.

We feel due to the overall challenges facing healthcare, this merger would be the best solution for our region in overall healthcare. We hope to see positive results from this merger in an overall better quality of life for our citizens in healthcare and for an enhanced economic growth in our counties.

Both Wellmont Health System and Mountain States Health Alliance have great assets and strengths. The merger between Mountain States Health Alliance and Wellmont Health System is an opportunity to change the way our local health care providers work together to tackle the healthcare challenges affecting our citizens in the region, thus making us a stronger community.

We see a positive future for our region and feel this comprehensive Health Care System will be an asset to retain and recruit businesses.

Our chamber cares deeply about our citizens and businesses in this region. We look forward to reaping the benefits this merger will bring to our region in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rita Surratt". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Rita Surratt, President/CEO  
Dickenson County Chamber of Commerce