

No. _____

IN THE
Supreme Court of the United States

LOUISIANA HEALTH SERVICE & INDEMNITY CO.,
doing business as BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD OF LOUISIANA,

Petitioner,

v.

ENCOMPASS OFFICE SOLUTIONS, INC.,

Respondent.

**Application for Extension of Time
to File a Petition for a Writ of Certiorari to the
United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit**

To the Honorable Samuel A. Alito, Jr., Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court and Circuit Justice for the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit:

Petitioner is Louisiana Health Service & Indemnity Company, d/b/a Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana (“BCBSLA”), which insures or administers health benefits plans for (among others) private employers. Petitioner intends to file a petition for certiorari in connection with a decision recently issued by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 13.5, Petitioner respectfully requests that the time for it to file a petition for a writ of certiorari be extended thirty days, to and including August 14, 2019. A petition for certiorari is

currently due in this Court on July 15, 2019. This Application is being filed more than ten days before that date.

The jurisdiction of this Court is invoked under 28 U.S.C. § 1254(1).

The judgment sought to be reviewed is *Encompass Office Solutions, Inc. v. Louisiana Health Service & Indemnity Co., d/b/a BlueCross BlueShield of Louisiana*, No. 17-10736 (5th Cir.), decided on March 19, 2019. Petitioner timely sought panel and *en banc* rehearing, which was denied on April 16, 2019. A copy of the opinion is attached (Appendix A), along with the order denying the petition for panel and *en banc* rehearing (Appendix B). (Appendix C is a Corporate Disclosure Statement.)

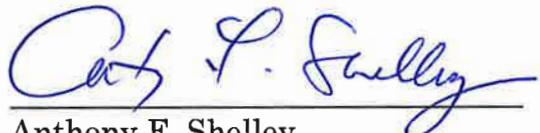
Good cause exists for granting this Application. The opinion for which review will be sought involves a myriad of significant federal issues, including: (1) the scope of a federal court's authority to make a "guess" as to state law under *Erie Railroad Co. v. Tompkins*, 304 U.S. 64 (1938), and (2) a medical provider's standing to sue under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"), 29 U.S.C. §§ 1001 *et seq.*, when the ERISA plan prohibits assignments of rights to medical providers. Additionally, Petitioners' Counsel of Record in this Court, Anthony F. Shelley, has primary responsibility for the preparation of the petition for certiorari, and the press of other recent work-related matters in which Counsel has primary responsibility are such that, even with the assistance of other attorneys, he will not reasonably be able to complete the work necessary to prepare the petition by the present due date (July 15, 2019). These competing matters include: (1) a petition for

certiorari in connection with *Depot v. Caring for Montanans, Inc.*, 915 F.3d 643 (9th Cir. 2019) (U.S., appl. for ext. granted, No. 18A1247); (2) appellate briefing in *Black v. Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp.*, No. 19-1419 (6th Cir.); and (3) appellate briefing in *Jackson v. Spencer*, No. 18-5180 (D.C. Cir.) (court-appointed *amicus curiae* for Appellant). Finally, Counsel recently was out of the office for an extended period due to a serious illness, which has hampered his ability to meet current deadlines.

Wherefore, Petitioner requests that an order be entered extending the time for it to file a petition for a writ of certiorari to and including August 14, 2019.

June 25, 2019

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

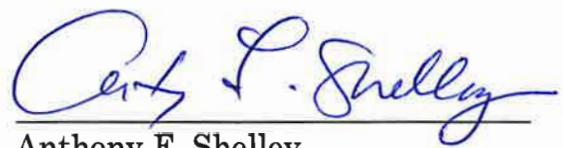
I, Anthony F. Shelley, a member of the Bar of this Court, hereby certify that, on June 25, 2019, I caused two (2) copies of the **Application for Extension of Time to File a Petition for a Writ of Certiorari to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit** to be served by first-class mail, postage prepaid, on counsel of record for each party in the court below, as set forth below. I also caused an electronic copy of the Application in PDF format to be served on them. I further certify that all persons required to be served have been served.

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