

# **UPMC, Washington Health System announce merger plans**

---

## **SEIU Healthcare Pennsylvania & Strategic Organizing Center v. University of Pittsburgh Medical Center**

On May 18, 2023, Strategic Organizing Center (SOC)—which is a coalition of labor unions Service Employees International Union (SEIU), Communications Workers of America, and United Farmworkers of America—as well as SEIU Healthcare Pennsylvania filed a complaint against University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) with the Department of Justice (DOJ). UPMC is a nonprofit cross-market system that operates as health care provider and insurer with forty hospitals in Pennsylvania, New York, and Maryland.

The complaint urges the DOJ to investigate whether UPMC has violated Section 2 of the Sherman Act, which prohibits monopolies and attempts to monopolize. The unions allege that UPMC's monopsony power has enabled them to engage in anticompetitive pay practices, such as noncompete clauses, do-not-rehire blacklists, and suppressing collective-bargaining efforts, while maintaining sub-competitive working conditions. The complaint also alleges that UPMC has monopoly levels of market share in multiple markets, and that it uses its market power to harm rival medical providers and health plans. Furthermore, the unions suspect that UPMC's conduct has

eroded the quality of patient care.

---

**Unions Accuse UPMC of  
Wielding Market Power Against  
Workers**

---

**Kaiser, Geisinger deal may  
speed up hospital  
consolidation**

---

**Geisinger board member: Local  
consolidation influenced  
Kaiser-Geisinger deal**

---

# **Kaiser, Geisinger Risant strategy in spotlight as executives tout value-based care**

---

## **Kaiser Permanente to acquire Geisinger in blockbuster deal**

---

### **HB 864 (see companion bill SB 83)**

Amending the act of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), entitled "An act relating to health care; prescribing the powers and duties of the Department of Health; establishing and providing the powers and duties of the State Health Coordinating Council, health systems agencies and Health Care Policy Board in the Department of Health, and State Health Facility Hearing Board in the Department of Justice; providing for certification of need of health care providers and prescribing penalties," in licensing of health care facilities, providing for hospital pricing transparency; providing for acquisition of health care facilities; and imposing duties on the Department of Health and the Attorney General.

---

## **SB 521**

An Act prohibiting the enforcement of a noncompete covenant entered into by a health care practitioner.

---

## **SB 83 (see companion bill HB 864)**

Amending the act of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), entitled "An act relating to health care; prescribing the powers and duties of the Department of Health; establishing and providing the powers and duties of the State Health Coordinating Council, health systems agencies and Health Care Policy Board in the Department of Health, and State Health Facility Hearing Board in the Department of Justice; providing for certification of need of health care providers and prescribing penalties," in licensing of health care facilities, providing for hospital pricing transparency; providing for acquisition of health care facilities; and imposing duties on the Department of Health and the Attorney General. Requires prior notice and approval of certain acquisitions of a hospital or hospital system.