



ST. CLAIR COUNTY BOARD

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MARK A. KERN
CHAIRMAN



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April 12, 2011

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson
Springfield, Illinois 62761

RE: Memorial Hospital - East
Project # 11-017

Dear Ms. Avery:

As St. Clair County Board Chairman I am writing to convey my endorsement for the Certificate of Need application submitted by Memorial Hospital to build a satellite hospital in Shiloh, Illinois.

Memorial Hospital has consistently maintained a strong presence in the Belleville community and I am confident that this expansion will enhance the delivery of healthcare services in St. Clair County. Annually Memorial reinvests \$10 - \$20 million in the organization for facility and program investments and has historically provided charity care for those unable to pay for services. They also provide medical services to a significant number of Medicare and Medicaid patients.

As a result of population growth in the O'Fallon/Shiloh area there is a need for expanded services and facilities that provide convenient high-quality care. After much evaluation it was decided that this site was the most economically and geographically feasible choice. This expansion will provide private rooms at both the current and new facilities resulting in increased efficiency, greater privacy and reduced risk of infection.

I strongly encourage the Board to approve Memorial Hospital's application.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Kern, Chairman
St. Clair County Board

MAK/dm