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DEPUTY REPUBLICAN WHIP

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1602

April 15, 2011

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Dale Galassie, Chairman
Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board
525 W Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62791

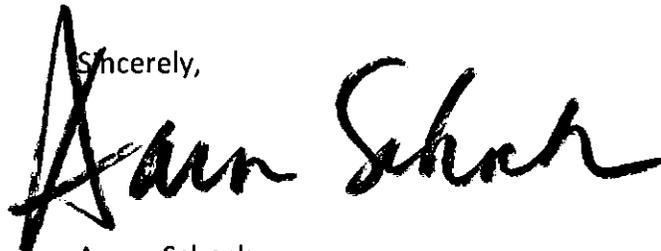
Dear Chairman Galassie:

I am writing to inquire about the Certificate of Need application being submitted by Peoria County regarding the Bel-Wood Nursing Home. The county has been providing skilled nursing care to our community for over 150 years, and seeks to replace their current facility. The current facility is licensed for 300 skilled beds, and the application that has been submitted is for a facility with 214 skilled beds. The county tells me they have done a careful analysis and determined that 214 beds is the proper size for the community.

Having worked with the Peoria County Board as both a member of the United States House of Representatives and as a former member of the Illinois General Assembly, I can attest to the County's commitment to providing a community safety net for those needing skilled nursing care but without the financial means to pay for private skilled care. The services delivered by Bel-Wood, as the largest provider of skilled nursing care for those on Medicaid in Central Illinois, are a wonderful asset to Peoria.

I trust that the County's Certificate of Need application will receive full and fair review, and will await the outcome with interest. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Aaron Schock
Member of Congress

AJS/br