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425 Summit Street
Joliet, Illinois 60435
www.dioceseofjoliet.org

August 5, 2011

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd FL
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am the Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Joliet that serves over 670,000 Roman Catholics in the counties of DuPage, Ford, Grundy, Iroquois, Kankakee, Kendall, and Will, encompassing nearly 5,000 square miles.

Throughout my life and my ministry as a Catholic priest and deacon, I have witnessed and personally experienced Christ's healing mission and the social responsibility of Catholic healthcare services. I am writing to you to express my support of the merger of Provena Health, the largest Catholic healthcare provider in my Diocese, and Resurrection Health Care, another large Catholic health system in Chicago.

The enduring commitment of both Provena and Resurrection to progress their ministries with the ever-growing needs of communities they serve has been well demonstrated for over 100 years. Through their proposed merger, the continual enhancement of leading-edge health services across a continuum care will grow stronger, improving access for those in this Diocese and beyond.

But more than that, this new partnership is a true extension of all that Catholic health care represents – quality care for all – especially those most vulnerable and in need. Indeed both health systems have a distinguished reputation among all providers in the State for service and compassionate response to human need, regardless of one's social condition, race, illness, age or ability to pay.

People throughout Illinois will benefit from this partnership which is as determined to remain on the leading edge of healthcare, as it is to warmly embrace its social responsibilities. I request you approve this application.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph M. Siegel".

Most Rev. Joseph M. Siegel
Auxiliary Bishop of Joliet