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January 25, 2012

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

RECEIVED

JAN 27 2012

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

RE: Letter of Support – Proposed Replacement St. Joseph’s Hospital- Project # 11-105 & #11-106

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept this letter as a statement of my support regarding St. Joseph’s Hospital’s Certificate of Need application filed with your agency regarding plans to build a new replacement hospital facility in Highland, IL.

As the owner of a manufacturing facility in Highland, I know the importance of up to date facilities and equipment with regard to providing a quality product. Process inefficiencies are an inherent result of aging facilities resulting in increased costs and loss of clientele. I either keep current with technology or give up my business to the guy down the street. It’s as simple as that.

Admittedly, there is a vast world of difference between a manufacturing facility and a hospital, but there is one major rule we all share: provide a better product or your clients will go elsewhere with their business.

St Joseph’s has always provided a needed quality product to the Highland area. Unfortunately the aging facility has maxed out the growth that is much needed. The proposed new replacement hospital will allow for the needed growth and expansion now and for years to come.

I won’t bore you by listing all features and benefits of the new facility. I’m sure the Certificate of Need Application has sufficiently provided those details and you don’t need to review those points again. What I will do however, is issue my personal request for your support. As a business owner, we need access to the services a new St. Joseph’s Hospital can provide. As a resident and family man, I want the security of knowing that my local hospital can provide the best medical care available. As a member of the hospital’s Board of Directors, I know this is this step is best for both the hospital and it’s patients.

On behalf of the more than 500 colleagues, physicians and volunteers of St. Joseph’s Hospital, I respectfully ask the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board to support Project #11-105 and #11-106.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bill Sullivan', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Bill Sullivan
President /CEO



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RE: Letter of Support – Proposed Replacement St. Joseph's Hospital- Project # 11-105 & #11-106

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please let this letter serve as a statement of my support regarding the Certificate of Need application filed with your agency by St. Joseph's Hospital in relation to its plans to build a new replacement hospital facility in Highland, IL.

St. Joseph's Hospital was founded in 1878 by the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis and since then it has served Highland and the surrounding communities by continuing the Sisters' commitment to care for the sick, poor and needy as a healing ministry of Jesus Christ. Despite improvements made to the current hospital building throughout its 64 year existence, the facility, as it stands today, lacks the ability to meet future healthcare reform and service requirements. Also, the four-acre site the hospital occupies is land locked with no ability to accommodate the expansion and growth that will be required as the health care needs of local residents continue to change.

In order to provide an extraordinary health care experience, the new St. Joseph's Hospital will be guided by six core principles:

- Convenience to the patients, including accessible and ample parking
- Privacy
- An Emergency Department with state-of-the-art technology and easy access
- Creating a healing environment for patients and their families
- The newest high-tech medical equipment and advanced technology throughout the hospital
- Continued family services with an increased emphasis on women and children services

Essentially, the new St. Joseph's Hospital will utilize state-of-the-art technology within a relaxed and peaceful environment so that patients will receive the highest quality care and heal more quickly. And, looking forward,

the new hospital will allow patients and families in the Highland community to have access to ever increasing levels of quality healthcare for generations to come.

As a member of the Friends of St. Joseph's Hospital Board of Directors I have enjoyed working with the hospital and its leadership as we plan the future of our healthcare ministry and as a resident of the Highland area I see firsthand the overwhelming support for the hospital's mission from the community. With that, I respectfully ask the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board to support Project #11-105 and #11-106.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Eric Schmidt". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Eric Schmidt