

October 5, 2012

Chairman Dale Galassie
Illinois Health Facilities and
Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Subject: The Healthcare Center at Monarch Landing, Project Number 12-036

Dear Chairman Galassie,

My wife, Ellen, and I are writing in support of the request for a Certificate of Need concerning the Healthcare Center at Monarch Landing. We have been residents at Monarch Landing for over five years and have anticipated having a healthcare center, including skilled nursing beds, as part of the facilities available to residents.

As we made plans for our retirement, we looked for a community that would provide continuous care that included independent living through skilled nursing. This type of community provided the peace of mind for us and our family that our medical needs would be taken care of as we aged. The ability to be easily accessible to our spouses and friends at Monarch Landing should the need arise to be in skilled nursing care is no small matter to us and to the seniors who live at Monarch Landing. It is a major reason residents have moved to Monarch Landing and an important consideration for prospective residents who are contemplating a move to Monarch Landing. From the beginning, it was understood that a healthcare center would become part of the Monarch Landing campus.

Under Criterion 1125.570 – Service Accessibility of the IHFSRB staff report it was noted that there was no mention of the impact to residents of having off-site skilled nursing care. There also did not seem to be any discussion concerning the negative effect the lack of a healthcare center would have on the future viability of Monarch Landing as a continuous care retirement community. The staff report focused on absence of service in the planning area, access limitations due to payor status of residents, restrictive admission policies and medical care problems of off-site facilities. While we understand this might be the criteria the staff must use, we hope the Board can understand our concerns mentioned above.

Therefore, we hope that the Board will be willing to consider additional information that we were told will be provided in support of the CON for the Healthcare Center at Monarch Landing. It is also our hope that the Board's consideration will result in approval of the CON. Without the ability to receive the continuum of care that is part of the plan for Monarch Landing, existing residents are placed in a difficult position and prospective residents may need to reassess their plans.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Ronald Sellberg Ellen Sellberg

Ronald and Ellen Sellberg
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