



October 4, 2013

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OCT 09 2013  
Illinois Dept. of Public Health  
Division of Food Drug & Daries

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13-047

Ms. Kathryn J. Olson  
Chair, Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor  
Springfield, IL. 62761

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Re: Midwestern Inpatient Modernization

Dear Ms. Olson,

Please allow me to take a moment to share my support of the inpatient modernization project at Midwestern Regional Medical Center in Zion.

I am incidentally a chiropractor on staff at Midwestern. As such, I can speak first-hand that Midwestern understands the needs of cancer patients and their families - and delivers accordingly and without compromise. That said, the existing inpatient space is outdated and the proposed modernization to single occupancy rooms is needed to provide optimal care to Midwestern's patients.

Midwestern is a destination medical center seeing cancer patients from across the nation. Approximately 80% of Midwestern's patients come from outside of Illinois and travel an average of over 400 miles for their treatment. Midwestern serves as a strong economic center and pillar in Lake County and is the City of Zion's largest employer and tax payer. The hospital continues to create jobs - currently employing approximately 1,200 people and expected to increase year over year. Moreover, last year, Midwestern provided approximately \$5.9 million in charitable care to patients unable to pay for their cancer treatment.

This modernization will allow Midwestern to continue fulfilling its promise and generate economic development in Lake County which I of course welcome with open arms. I am excited about Midwestern's mission, vision and values, as well as their continued growth and investment made in Lake County.

Kindest Regards,

Brent C. Paxton  
Chairman, Lake County Finance and Administration committee

Copy: Scott Jones, President and CEO, Midwestern Regional Medical Center