

February 5, 2014

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)  
Springfield, IL 62761

**RECEIVED**

**FEB 07 2014**

**HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Re: Project #13-069 Memorial Hospital of Carbondale, Carbondale

Dear Ms. Avery,

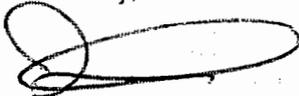
I am taking this opportunity to share my support for Memorial Hospital of Carbondale's planned expansion. This project proposes to increase the number of Intensive Care beds and Operating Rooms to address the current and future shortage of beds and surgical space needed to care for patients.

Over the years, I have watched Memorial Hospital of Carbondale evolve and transform into the quality, regional healthcare provider that it is today. Gone are the days when friends and family would make the tedious, fretful trek to St. Louis, Springfield or Chicago for the cardiac care that is now available in our own backyard. When the region's only neurosurgeons left nearly a decade ago, Memorial Hospital of Carbondale and parent Southern Illinois Healthcare were the first to aggressively recruit and restore a robust neurosciences program. Time and again, our regional community has depended on Memorial Hospital of Carbondale to provide the advanced kinds of care that were otherwise unheard of in one of the most impoverished areas of Illinois. It is the kind of care that keeps us here, when our loved ones need us the most.

I have witnessed years of SIH servings its' community. Southern Illinois needs and greatly values SIH. In conclusion, I wholeheartedly endorse Memorial Hospital of Carbondale's modernization and expansion endeavor.

Thank you for your time and attention to this project. Please feel free to reach out to me at 509 S University Ave, Carbondale, IL 62901, 618-457-3700.

Sincerely,



Jeff Speith  
Old National Bank  
Region President

February 4, 2014

**RECEIVED**

**FEB 07 2014**

**HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

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

**RE: Project #13-069, Memorial Hospital of Carbondale**

Dear Ms. Avery:

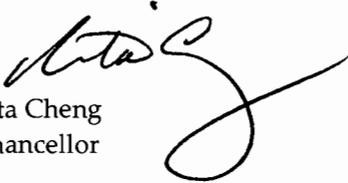
On behalf of Southern Illinois University Carbondale, I am delighted to write this letter of support for the planned expansion of Memorial Hospital of Carbondale.

The project will make significant changes to the hospital's ability to care for more patients through additional Intensive Care beds and Operating Rooms. These and other upgrades will bolster the hospital's already strong reputation and its capability of serving more patients.

The commitment to southern Illinois the hospital has made in recent years is especially critical to the University, as we are the major employer and economic engine in the region. Maintaining its position as the leading provider of quality healthcare in the region not only helps it attract and retain leading physicians and specialists that benefits our area, but it helps the University and our greater region attract and retain talented students, faculty, staff and retirees who come to live, work and play in southern Illinois. Further, many of the communities served by Memorial are among the most impoverished in the state with substantial numbers of uninsured and underinsured patients. I applaud the institution's mission to provide care for residents of southern Illinois regardless of their ability to pay.

I encourage the approval of this meaningful project that will allow Memorial Hospital of Carbondale to expand and strengthen its position as the healthcare leader of southern Illinois.

Sincerely,

  
Rita Cheng  
Chancellor

RC/mb

February 3, 2014

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)  
Springfield, IL 62761

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Re: Project #13-069 Memorial Hospital of Carbondale, Carbondale

Dear Ms. Avery,

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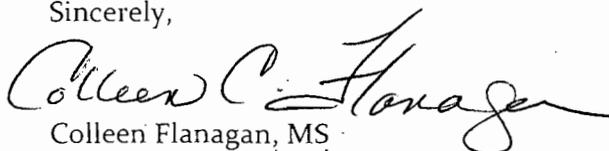
Over the years, I have watched Memorial Hospital of Carbondale evolve and transform into the quality, regional healthcare provider that it is today. Gone are the days when friends and family would make the tedious, fretful trek to St. Louis, Springfield or Chicago for the cardiac care that is now available in our own backyard. When the region's only neurosurgeons left nearly a decade ago, Memorial Hospital of Carbondale and parent Southern Illinois Healthcare were the first to aggressively recruit and restore a robust neurosciences program. Time and again, our regional community has depended on Memorial Hospital of Carbondale to provide the advanced kinds of care that were otherwise unheard of in one of the most impoverished areas of Illinois. It is the kind of care that keeps us here, when our loved ones need us the most.

This stewardship is also demonstrated in the hospital's policy to provide care to patients, regardless of their ability to pay, through its charity care program. The hospital's commitment to the health and well-being of the communities it serves is well documented.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly endorse Memorial Hospital of Carbondale's modernization and expansion endeavor. I am the Area Administrator for the state wide agency TASC, Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities and work with individuals involved in the criminal justice system. Our clients were able to access services at Carbondale Memorial Hospital. Personally I have been able to access excellent care at this hospital and found all staff welcoming and concerned about my well-being.

Thank you for your time and attention to this project. Please feel free to reach out to me at 810 Locust, Murphysboro, IL 62966. I can be contacted at 618-565-0060.

Sincerely,



Colleen Flanagan, MS

TASC Area Administrator