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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

405 Rushing Drive
Herrin, IL 62948
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02/10/14

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

Reference: Project #13-069 Memorial Hospital of Carbondale, Carbondale, Illinois

Dear Ms. Avery,

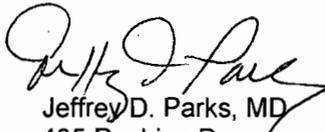
My name is Jeffrey Parks and I am a family physician in Williamson County. I have practiced in this county since 1983 and currently work for the Southern Illinois Medical Group. My practice is family practice.

For the past 30 years, I have often referred surgical treatment to Memorial Hospital of Carbondale. I find that Memorial is capable of treating the majority of my patients, but still have limitations due to their space limitation and over saturated schedule. If Memorial Hospital had better surgical facilities, then the area could attract additional and more acutely trained surgeons to treat cases that now leave the area.

This proposed modernization and expansion will benefit the local citizens. Currently, many of my patients are above the age of 70 and it is difficult for them to travel to other states for their medical care. With this change in the surgical suites and the ICU, the majority of these patients will be able to stay closer to home. Not only will this improve the quality of care for all of our patients, but it will mean that Illinois dollars will stay within our state boundary.

Unfortunately, there are also a number of patients that just don't receive medical care because they don't have the luxury of choosing between another state and our local providers. This leads to increased pain and suffering and decreased life expectancy. Thank you for your consideration to this much needed project. I would be happy to discuss this further or provide additional information.

Sincerely,


Jeffrey D. Parks, MD
405 Rushing Dr.
Herrin, Illinois 62948

**WALLACE
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February 5th, 2014

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

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

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

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing this letter of support to enthusiastically endorse Memorial Hospital of Carbondale's planned expansion. The 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.

As a member of the region's business community, I can affirm Memorial Hospital of Carbondale's critical role as not only one of the region's largest employers, but also as a leading provider of quality healthcare as has been demonstrated in national accolades in cardiac and stroke care in recent years. Additionally, Memorial Hospital of Carbondale and parent organization Southern Illinois Healthcare have done what they said they were going to do by recruiting a number of new physicians and specialists so patients do not have to leave the region for the medical care they need. Furthermore, many of the communities in the hospital's service area are among the most impoverished in Illinois with a number of uninsured and underinsured patients. I applaud the organization's mission to provide care for their patients regardless of their ability to pay - a figure backed up by the substantial amount of charity care the hospital provides each year.

Memorial Hospital of Carbondale is vital to the economic strength of southern Illinois and to the thousands of patients that depend on the hospital every day.

If you have additional questions, please contact me at 317 E. Main, Carbondale, IL. 62901.

Sincerely,


Bruce Wallace

Wallace Enterprises