

708 West Vermont Ave.  
Urbana, IL 61801  
July 25, 2014

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14-015

JUL 28 2014

HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Ms. Courtney Avery  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
Illinois Dept. of Public Health  
525 W. Jefferson, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Ms. Avery:                      Re: Carle's proposed 48-bed expansion

I strongly oppose Carle's proposal to add 48 beds to their hospital system. Here are my reasons:

1. It would be detrimental to Presence Covenant Hospital in Urbana and Presence's Danville hospital.
2. It is vital to maintain two separate hospitals to avoid huge increases in costs to patients stemming from a monopoly arrangement. Such an arrangement would occur if Carle were permitted to buy Covenant or run it out of business. Not so long ago the merger of the Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women's Hospital into Partners Health Care system led to huge increases of costs to patients and insurers. And, there are other hospitals in the Boston area. There aren't any here.
3. One lesson of experience of many hospitals is that build-out of facilities, beds, etc. leads to big cost increases.
4. Presence is more generous with its charity, particularly for patients who must pay part of their own costs. Many Medicaid patients go there.
5. Our region has the highest health insurance rates in Illinois. Carle owns Health Alliance. There is little incentive to bargain and would be even less of Presence was absorbed by Carle.
6. Carle has one of the highest infection and avoidable complications in Illinois (see News-Gazette, June 27, 2014). Without completion what is the incentive for improvement? Should the IHFSRB not consider such substandard performance as a criterion for denial for the chance to expand?

Sincerely yours,

*George W. Ordal*

George W. Ordal  
Professor Emeritus of Biochemistry  
College of Medicine  
University of Illinois

1304 Eliot Dr.  
Urbana , Il 61801  
July 23, 2013

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

Illinois Department of Public Health

525 W. Jefferson, Second Floor

Springfield, Illinois 62761

Subject: Carle HOspital Urbana request for more beds

I urge you to refuse Carle's request for additional beds. Carle has a history of not being a good citizen in the Urbana/Champaign community.

First they short-changed the amount of charity care that they were required to give. They claimed to offer more free and subsidized care than they were actually delivering.

2. When that was settled and they were permitted to remove themselves from the tax roles as a charitable institution they have continued to attempt to put money making above offering quality medical care in the community.
3. They have added a \$200 "hospital" charge for ANY service in any of their clinics, whenever a patient walks in for a 15 minute consult with a nurse practitioner or any other service.
4. Now they are attempting to purchase Presence/ the other local hospital so that they have a monopoly of hospitals in Urbana/Champaign.
5. They own Health Alliance - a major local health insurer.

Since the job of the health facilities review board is to look out for "need" based increase of services I would strongly recommend that you keep to your original statement of denial of need.

Bernice B. Lieberman

1506 S. Orchard St.  
Urbana, IL 61801  
July 25, 2014

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Dear Members of the Health Facilities and Services Review Board,

I write to express my grave concern about and opposition to Carle Foundation Hospital's request to expand its facilities. Carle already owns a large amount of tax exempt property in Urbana and has expressed no willingness to pay its fair share of taxes to support its already large campus and this proposed expansion. In addition, Carle is notorious for building first, then finding purposes for its buildings, often duplicating services or facilities already available to citizens and patients in Central Illinois.

I only recently learned of your hearing and wish I had been able to attend to hear what possible rationale there is for Carle's additional facilities. I know there will be another hearing, requested by Carle to appeal your last ruling of "intent to deny." I believe you owe it to all citizens concerned about the rising cost of health care, in part due to projects fueled by a sense of "manifest destiny" like this one, to hold more public hearings and, ultimately to deny Carle's request. I believe many citizens of Carle's hometown of Urbana share my concern about this.

Thank you,  
Sincerely,

  
Martha Wagner Weinberg, Ph.D

Please acknowledge that you have  
received this letter mww@illinois.edu