

MIKE BOST  
12TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE  
SMALL BUSINESS COMMITTEE  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-1312

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March 24, 2016

Karen J. Olson, Chair  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 West Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Chairwoman Olson:

It is my distinct pleasure to write this letter of support for Dr. Zahoor A. Makhdoom and the Southern Illinois Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Center in their efforts to continue existing as a physician-office based endoscopy practice to a limited-specialty surgical treatment center in Carbondale, Illinois.

Dr. Makhdoom and the Southern Illinois Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Center provide the community and affordable means for colorectal cancer screening and prevention. Due to the needs of the population, including the reimbursements, have created a demand for endoscopy procedures to be performed in an office based setting. Education and advocacy societies such as the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy agree that many gastrointestinal endoscopy procedures can be performed in an office setting. Accrediting organizations such as Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) and American Association for Accreditation of Ambulatory Surgery Facilities (AAAASF) help ensure that these standards are similar, if not the same as the standards set for an institutional setting. These organizations ensure that patients will get quality care in a safe environment.

Patients and their doctors should have the right to decide on a location for endoscopic procedures that best meet the needs of the patient. By offering services in an office based setting, lower expenses associated with these procedures might entice patients to pursue screening earlier.

March 24, 2016

I ask that you give full and fair consideration to this application for Dr. Zahoor A. Makhdoom and the Southern Illinois Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Center. If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate contacting my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Bost', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mike Bost  
Member of Congress

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**SENATOR DAVID LUECHTEFELD**  
ASSISTANT MINORITY LEADER

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MAR 30 2016  
HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

March 24, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of Dr. Zahoor A. Makhdoom and Southern Illinois Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Center and their efforts to continue existing physician-office based colorectal cancer screening and prevention to a limited-specialty treatment center located in Carbondale, Illinois.

There are a number of reasons, such as reimbursement, that have produced a demand for Colorectal Cancer screening to be performed in an office based setting. Educational and advocacy societies such as the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy agree that many of the gastrointestinal procedures can be performed safely in an office setting. Accrediting organizations help ensure that standards are set and followed to ensure patient safety.

Patients and their doctors should be given the right to decide the location for the endoscopic procedures, and cancer screenings that best meet their needs. Offering these services in an office based setting will lower expenses associated with these procedures and encourage patients to pursue screening earlier.

I enthusiastically support Dr. Zahoor A. Makhdoom and Southern Illinois Gastrointestinal endoscopy Center and their efforts. If I can be further assistance, please do not hesitate contacting my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Luechtefeld".

David Luechtefeld  
State Senator  
58<sup>th</sup> District