



**Madison County Government  
Madison County Board**

*Madison County Administration Building  
157 N. Main Street, Suite 165 · Edwardsville, IL 62025-1963  
Phone (618) 296-4341 · Fax (618) 692-7476  
email: [coboard@co.madison.il.us](mailto:coboard@co.madison.il.us)*

**RECEIVED**

AUG 28 2020

HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

August 27, 2020

Courtney Avery  
Administrator  
Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761  
[courtney.avery@illinois.gov](mailto:courtney.avery@illinois.gov)

Re: Opposition to CON Application #20-017 – Metro east Endoscopic Surgery Center

Dear Ms. Avery:

The purpose of this letter is to request you deny Con Application #20-017. The project has a number of adverse consequences. First, the Metro east Endoscopic Surgery Center will compete and possibly eliminate identical services at rural hospitals by redirecting current services to Shiloh Illinois. It seems important to recognize the most effected rural hospital remains a federally designated Critical Access Hospital which provides safety net services. Secondly, the proposed center runs counter to previous collaboration by the applicant with Highland Hospital which purchased and maintained expensive (1.5 million dollars) robotic orthopedic equipment in good faith at the applicant's request. Thirdly, the financial pressures caused by this project during the Covid - 19 Pandemic threatens their financial well - being and its commitment to charity whereas the proposed surgery center offers no charity while raising costs. For example, for CPT Code 29807 (Arthroscopic Shoulder Surgical Repair Slap Legion), the applicant proposes to charge \$39,897 – which is more than double the \$17,535 charged for the same procedure at the affected hospital. Health care consumers will suffer additional costs.

In conclusion, approval of Con Application #20-017 would adversely affect the quality and cost of health care in Bond, Clinton, and Madison Counties by limiting health care choices and increasing costs for consumers. In addition, the health safety net provided citizens will suffer while cutting health care employment numbers in rural areas. We don't need fewer service sites, fewer people working in rural health care, and increased health care costs. I discussed this issue with some concerned citizens. One drew an analogy to the grocery industry. He stated; "Huh, this sounds like taking all the grocery stores out of Breese, Greenville, and Highland and making folks go to one big grocery store in Shiloh. This would put all the smaller stores out of business, make it harder to get groceries, and increase costs for people buying food." Approval of the Metro-east Endoscopic Surgery Center would essentially make it the 'only ball game in town'. Approval of such a monopoly doesn't make much sense from my

constituent's common sense grocery industry analogy. Monopolies lead to too much power and money for a few. Please deny CON Application #20-017. The preservation of rural hospitals remains essential.

Respectfully,

*Philip W. Chapman*

Philip W. Chapman  
Madison County Board District Three  
12 Frey Boys Lane  
Highland, IL 62249  
[pchapman0113@gmail.com](mailto:pchapman0113@gmail.com)  
618-402-6998