

BARRINGTON SURGEONS, LTD.

10-089

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Emeritus

General Surgery
Oncologic Surgery
Laparoscopic Surgery
Bariatric Surgery
Colorectal Surgery

RECEIVED

MAR 25 2011

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Service Review Board:

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

I am a board certified general surgeon who practices in Barrington, IL. I completed a fellowship in minimally invasive surgery at Stanford University. I am unable to attend today's meeting but wanted to make sure that my opinion is heard in this important matter. Thank you for the opportunity to express my concerns.

This proposed hospital is simply not needed. The intended market area for the proposed hospital is already well-served by several area hospitals. This includes Good Shepherd Hospital, which is located only six miles from the proposed site. Much of the population intended to be served by the new hospital is closer to an existing hospital than to the proposed hospital.

Construction of an additional hospital when there is capacity at other area hospitals, including Mercy's hospital in Harvard, is simply not needed. This unnecessary expenditure comes at a time when our federal and state governments have increasing budget deficits. It is the government, taxpayers, employers and individual premium payers who will be providing the funds for this unwarranted project.

The Mercy facility would hurt existing hospitals and impede their capacity to continue to serve their patients and community with high quality, cost efficient care as well as provide a safety net for the medically indigent.

The new facility, if built, will draw away a significant number of patients from existing hospitals. For many services a solid patient base is needed to provide the ancillary support services and frequency of experience among the clinical team.

I specialize in providing laparoscopic surgery as well as robotic-assisted surgery. These tools help us to provide the best patient outcomes with the least pain and shortest hospital stays. Robotic-assisted surgery requires a high degree of specialization. Medical research supports the theory that surgeons and facilities that perform the highest numbers of the same types of surgeries have the best success rates. It comes down to the adage of "practice makes perfect". The addition of

another hospital will reduce the number of specialty surgeries performed by the nursing and clinical team. This could reduce clinical competencies. If you or your family were the person needing this surgical procedure, would you want it performed by a surgical team that did it only a few times per year?

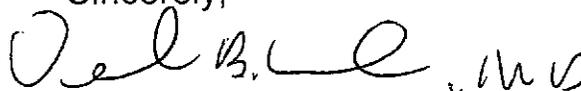
One of Mercy's arguments for building the new hospital is that it will provide an integrated hospital-physician system which will improve quality.

I want you to be aware that an integrated physician-hospital organization is not a novel concept in our area. Advocate Health Care, including Good Shepherd Hospital, has a physician member physician hospital organization. Advocate Physician Partners has 3,400 members, including myself.

Advocate Physician Partners is very proud to be nationally recognized as a leader in developing measures which focus on quality outcomes, cost efficiencies, and value. In our unique Clinical Integration Program, physicians work together to address the quality and costs associated with an entire episode of care, not just one visit. Physicians also work directly with patients to reduce the physical and financial effect of disease and illness by designing treatment plans that include medical intervention and lifestyle changes. Mercy's integrated approach will not bring anything new to the area.

I urge the Board to meet its mission and deny the project on the basis that it is an unnecessary duplication of resources and it will adversely affect the quality of care to the area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel Wool, MD". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the letters "D", "W", and "M" being particularly prominent.

Daniel Wool, MD

DANIEL J. PESAVENTO, M.D., P.C.

Obstetrics & Gynecology

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

March 18, 2011

My name is Dr. Pesavento. I am an obstetrician, practicing in Barrington.. I received my medical school and residency training at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. I live in Woodstock, Illinois.

I ask that the Review Board not approve this application, because the Mercy- Crystal Lake hospital will duplicate existing resources, negatively impact existing hospitals, and adversely affect patient safety and quality care.

As an obstetrician/gynecologist who has practiced in the community for more than 20 years, I believe that the area is well-served with nearby hospitals; most have obstetrics facilities.

Sherman located, just fifteen minutes from Crystal Lake offers obstetrics and gynecology services and has available capacity in its OB GYN unit. Good Shepherd located less the one mile from the McHenry County border also provides excellent obstetrics and gynecology services and has available capacity to serve more obstetrics patients.

As I recall, another McHenry County hospital, located in Harvard, actually discontinued obstetrics services. The hospital explained that the obstetrics unit had to be closed due to the inability to obtain sufficient nurse and physician staffing for quality care.

I am concerned that adding yet another obstetrics unit to McHenry County will again exacerbate the problem of adequate staffing to assure patient safety. The obstetrics programs and resources at existing hospitals will become diluted with the addition of an obstetrics unit at another hospital. The proposed Mercy-Crystal Lake hospital would siphon away obstetrics patients from existing hospitals. I am concerned that the resulting obstetric delivery volumes at some of the area hospitals could become so low, that quality and patient safety will become jeopardized. It is challenging to staff an obstetrics unit efficiently and provide quality care, when only performing a few deliveries each day. It is important for nurses to have enough patient care experience on a regular basis to maintain their skills and continue to provide high quality patient care

The proposed hospital would be an unnecessary and costly duplication of resources.

DANIEL J. PESAVENTO, M.D., P.C.

Obstetrics & Gynecology

Many area hospitals already serve the Crystal Lake community, and most have capacity to serve more patients. An expensive, unnecessary new hospital would burden our already overextended state and federal budgets, increase health insurance premiums, and health costs to employers.

I urge the board to deny this application.



10-089

Jean Marie Saidler
4004 Tamarisk Trail
Crystal Lake, IL 60012

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Ms. Courtney Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board
525 W. Jefferson Street - Second Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Ms. Avery,

My name is Jean Marie Saidler, and I have been a resident of McHenry County for over 25 years.

I'd like to express my opinions about why allowing Mercy Health System to build a new hospital in the area would be a mistake.

Because so many families in our community and across the country have been affected by the high unemployment rate, the potential for a new facility to create jobs is certainly welcome. But since this proposed hospital would not be serving a new base of patients (or customers in the business sense), the hospital would not be creating jobs. It would be just relocating jobs from one health care facility to another. This hospital would be adding nearly 50% more beds to the County in one fell swoop.

Building a new hospital now would be comparable to building new schools so that the children don't have to travel so far to get an education. Imagine if we built 50% more schools in McHenry County. That would provide a lot of construction jobs, wouldn't it? But would be a good thing in the long run? No, it wouldn't. In a school situation, if the same number of students were spread among more schools, the new school would not generate new teaching jobs. It just means that taxpayers bear the burden of new construction and operation of another school. And, because some of the students transferred to the new school, the existing schools would most likely have to eliminate some teaching positions.

Back to the issue of a proposed new hospital: Spreading the required number of healthcare jobs among more hospitals may even make it harder for all hospitals to attract and retain a quality staff. Hospitals would have to compete for staff - say, for example, nurses. And since we are already facing a nursing shortage, the inevitable economic forces of supply and demand would drive up salaries. This would in turn mean higher insurance premiums and out-of-pocket costs for everyone. This is not good for the local economy.

I hope you will take these points into consideration and consider the long range negative impact of this project on the future of our county. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Jean-Marie Saidler
Crystal Lake Resident