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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

April 12, 2011

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson
Springfield, Illinois 62761

RE: Letter of Support - Memorial Hospital – East - Project # 11-017

Dear Ms. Avery:

On behalf of Hospice of Southern Illinois, Inc., please accept my support for Memorial Hospital-East's \$110 million expansion program. This program is the result of a three-year evaluation and planning process. In 2008, 94-acres were acquired for this project. This expansion will create an all private bed facility providing increased efficiency, improved patient satisfaction and lower infection rates. Building a new patient tower on Belleville's Memorial Hospital's existing site would be significantly more expensive than locating on the Shiloh site. The Shiloh site is a more economical option.

Memorial Hospital has a long history of providing charity care to those unable to pay for services as well as provides medical services to a significant number of Medicare and Medicaid patients. Memorial Hospital is rooted in Belleville – no services will be leaving the Belleville campus as a result of the satellite hospital in Shiloh. Memorial Hospital reinvests \$10-\$20 million annually back into the organization for facility and program improvements.

Memorial Hospital helps address outmigration issues and helps keep patients in Illinois for their healthcare services. As a result of population growth and demand for convenient care with the communities served, especially in the O'Fallon/Shiloh area, there is a need for expanded services and facilities.

Memorial Hospital continues to be recognized for its commitment to providing exceptional health care and compassionate service to patients. Recent examples include:

- HealthGrades, an independent healthcare ratings organization, ranks Memorial Hospital in the top 10% in the nation for its level of cardiac care.
- The U.S. News & World Reports named Memorial Hospital as one of Best Hospitals in St. Louis.

We are proud to support Memorial Hospital East's expansion program.

Yours very truly,

Rebecca J. Wisdom, L.C.S.W.
President and CEO

Cc: Mark Turner, President and CEO, Memorial Hospital
4500 Memorial Drive, Belleville, Illinois 62226

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