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September 14, 2011

Illinois Health Facilities &
Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street
Springfield, IL 62761

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Dear Review Board,

I am writing this letter to protest the closing of the Long Term Care Unit at Culbertson Memorial Hospital in Rushville. My ninety-seven year old mother and my soon to be one hundred year old aunt are current residents in the Long Term Care Unit and have been for this past year. My mother was especially traumatized by having to move out of her home, but she has come to accept and like the Long Term Care Unit because of the smaller size and the fine personal care she receives. I am afraid of moving her. I have looked into the other nursing home facility in town, but it is larger and does not have the same appeal for Mother.

I think it has been imprudent on the hospital board's part to become more involved with Medicare as that has brought the Long Term Care Unit to this point. Throwing away sure money for a promise of money from the government is not prudent. The Long Term Care Unit has always been a viable source of income for the hospital and would continue to be if the community was assured it would remain open.

Please also consider how adversely the closing of the Long Term Care Unit at Culbertson right now will affect the patients and their families. Wintertime, bad weather, and the holidays significantly increase the stress of the situation. My mother and aunt are very important people to me, and they should be to you, too. Thank You.

Respectfully,

Mary Jo Bartlow

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Mary Jo Bartlow
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