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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

To: Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator

RE: Letter of Support
St. Joseph's Hospital - Highland, IL

11-105
11-106

From: *Jim Burgett*
145 Coventry Way
Highland, IL 62249
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Date: /18/121

Pages: 2 (including cover)



January 18, 2012

Ms. Courtney R. Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson
2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: Letter of Support - Proposed Replacement St. Joseph's Hospital- Project # 11-105 & #11-106

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept this letter of support regarding St. Joseph's Hospital's Certificate of Need application filed with your agency regarding plans to build a new replacement hospital facility in Highland, IL.

As a resident, former Supt. of Schools, member of the HSHS Board of Directors, and as a person who has used this facility many times, I am in total support of the efforts to replace this facility with one that will demonstrate state of the art technology and expanded services. The new hospital is designed to be accessible, provide ample parking, and reflect the newest in medicine with high tech equipment, a much needed expanded Emergency Department with newer technology, and the continued emphasis on providing everyone the best in care and an environment of healing.

Since 1878, St. Joseph's Hospital has served the Highland area by continuing its commitment to care for the sick, poor and needy as a healing ministry of Jesus Christ established by the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis. During its 64-year old life, many improvements have been made to the facility, but it lacks the ability to meet future healthcare reform and service requirements. In addition, the current four-acre site is land locked and unable to accommodate needed expansion and growth as health care needs change.

Probably of most importance is that a replacement hospital would keep the more than 32,000 local residents, from three counties, from having to travel for basic and emergency services.

As a member of the St. Joseph's Hospital Board of Directors, I have worked with the present leadership, the past leadership, and with members of our communities fostering the mission of this fine facility. And, on behalf of more than 500 colleagues, physicians, volunteers, and countless residents who use and appreciate our hospital, I respectfully ask the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board to support Project #11-105 and #11-106.

Sincerely,

James Burgett
145 Coventry Way
Highland, IL 62249