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*Jacqueline Y. Collins*  
STATE SENATOR • 16TH DISTRICT

**RECEIVED**

OCT 29 2012

HEALTH FACILITIES  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

October 26, 2012

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

RE: Project # 12 - 079  
Holy Cross Hospital

Dear Ms. Avery:

This letter is being written to document my support for Holy Cross Hospital becoming a member of Sinai Health System.

As Illinois State Senator for the 16th District, I am well aware that Holy Cross Hospital is the lone hospital serving a large and densely populated area of Chicago's southwest side. This area is economically and health services challenged. I also know that the Sisters of St. Casimir have experienced severe difficulties in sponsoring the hospital without the benefits of being part of a larger system. Healthcare services are desperately needed in the communities served by Holy Cross. The hospital Emergency Room is one of the busiest in Illinois and it receives more ambulances per day than any other state hospital.

The mission of caring for the underserved is shared deeply by Holy Cross Hospital and Sinai Health System. This partnership of Holy Cross Hospital with Sinai Health System will strengthen and sustain vital community health care services. Sinai Health System has, for decades, demonstrated high quality of care for their patients, and the joining of Holy Cross with Sinai Health System will allow critical health services to survive and will improve access to more specialized care when needed.

I urge the Illinois Health Facilities and Services review Board to support Holy Cross' desire to join Sinai Health System.

Sincerely,

*Jacqueline Y. Collins*

Jacqueline Y. Collins  
State Senator, 16<sup>th</sup> District