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TOI W. HUTCHINSON
STATE SENATOR
40TH DISTRICT

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FEB 11 2013

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

February 6, 2013

Mr. Dale Galassie
Chairman, Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
Members of the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Chairman Galassie:

Re: Project # 12-089—Riverside Medical Center/Frankfort Proposal

I am pleased to support the proposed free-standing emergency department that Riverside Medical Center wishes to establish at the corner of LaGrange and Steger Roads in Frankfort.

Riverside Medical Center, a nonprofit healthcare system based in Kankakee, plans to build this facility to improve access for residents of underserved areas. Specifically, those living in areas north of Manteno and south of the proposed Riverside site are required to travel between 25-30 minutes to access emergency care services. As Riverside has proven over the past 45 years, they are committed to investing in and bringing quality care to communities in need, rather than requiring individuals to travel great distances to receive such care. In the event of an emergency, time is critical. Convenient access is not a luxury but rather a necessity.

Riverside's proposed facility will be an innovative, freestanding, and fully equipped emergency room with state-of-the-art diagnostic technology and services. This location will offer access to board certified emergency physicians 24 hours a day, 7 days per week. As a resident of the area and a representative of these communities, I feel we should have the peace of mind that the Riverside facility will offer.

I support Riverside Medical Center's commitment to bring high quality emergency care to the region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Senator Toi W. Hutchinson".

Toi Hutchinson
State Senator • 40th District