Illinois Health Facilities and Services
525 W. Jefferson St.
Springfield, IL 62761

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Oct. 8, 2014

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a retired employee of St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Belleville, IL.

I had the privilege of ministering to patients as a chaplain from the Pastoral Care Dept. In this capacity I knew very well what the Sisters wanted us to convey to our patients. Compassion, competence and hope was paramount in their language and example for us to follow.

The hospital is an old facility, but that did not deter them from instructing and making cleanliness and keeping everything there up to code a top priority. But in spite of this there are things that cannot be accomplished in such an old structure. I have been reading and hearing about the objections from people regarding the move to a better location with a lot of ground to surround the new facility. That in itself will be a marked improvement.

I can understand how the city might have fears of losing this facility, but the hospital does need to keep pace with its competitors or it will not thrive and then the area could be lessened by one hospital altogether.

I certainly hope that the powers that be will use common sense to see the need for St. Elizabeth's to continue to serve this area, to the best of their ability , in an updated facility. Surely , if the Sisters are willing to invest such a large sum of money to serve this area, the least that all of you could do is support their efforts.

Sincerely,
Cathy Benvenuto

Cathy Benvenuto
1015 Alco Dr.
Collinsville, IL 62234