



**First
Mid-Illinois
Bancshares, Inc.**

2/6/2015

Kathy Olson, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Service Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street
Springfield, IL 62761

RECEIVED

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Re: Project 14-062

Dear Ms. Olson:

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center (SBL)'s plans for building a new cancer center near the hospital between Charleston and Mattoon.

As an organization whose foundations rest upon an enduring partnership with the community, SBL is deeply committed to its mission of providing exceptional care for all and creating healthy communities. SBL understands the critical role healthcare plays in the quality of life for rural residents. The organization has made substantial contributions to the quality and access to care in the region – including recruitment of highly qualified providers, expansion of financial assistance programs, early adoption of electronic medical records, and participation in many community partnerships for health improvement initiatives. SBL offers numerous programs to the community at no cost to participants, including the delivery of uncompensated care.

SBL is an important health resource and economic development asset in East Central Illinois. It has proven itself capable of adapting to the changing landscape of healthcare reform – practicing good stewardship, investing wisely in new technologies and committing itself to ongoing performance improvement across the organization. I respectfully request that the board approve the SBL Certificate of Need application.

Sincerely,

Joseph R. Dively
Chairman and CEO
First Mid-Illinois Bancshares