STATE OF ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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SPRINGFIELD OFFICE:
200-9S STRATTON BLDG.
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62706
217/782-5131
217/557-0521 FAX

DISTRICT OFFICE:
607 S. COMMERCIAL ST., SUITE B
HARRISBURG, IL 62946
618/253-4189
618/253-3136 FAX

BRANDON W. PHELPS
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
118TH DISTRICT

RECEIVED
MAR 24 2015
HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Tuesday, March 10, 2015

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator
IL Health Facilities & Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson
Second Floor
Springfield IL 62761

RE: Project #15-007 Herrin Hospital

Dear Ms. Avery,

I would like to take this opportunity to share how essential Herrin Hospital is to the greater southern Illinois community as a provider of quality care for over a century. As a safety net hospital in a region with a 20.8% poverty level, I have always appreciated the organization's mission to provide healthcare to all patients, regardless of their ability to pay. Their organizational values are clearly documented as Herrin Hospital consistently provides a tremendous amount of charity care via its Health Assistance Program and bad debt write-offs. In fact, during fiscal year 2014, Herrin Hospital's total charity care amount totaled $14,168,026, an increase over 26% from 2012.

The hospital's physician recruitment efforts have brought over a half-dozen surgical specialists to the facility in recent years. This has helped to decrease outmigration for inpatient and outpatient surgeries. Ongoing recruitment efforts aim to bring in at least three more surgical specialists over the next 12 to 18 months. This is especially crucial for low-income and vulnerable families in southern Illinois, particularly due in part to the region's dual designation as a Health Professional Shortage Area and a Medically Underserved Area.

As a legislator whose region includes Herrin Hospital, I can attest to the hospital's commitment to the health and well-being of the communities it serves. I look forward to the facility's growth and development in the years to come.

Sincerely,

Brandon Phelps
IL House of Representatives
District 118

South Side Lumber, Inc.

P.O. Box A • 1300 South Park Avenue • Herrin, Illinois 62948
www.sslumbr.com
618-942-3111 • 1-888-775-3111 • Fax 988-1510

March 20, 2015

RECEIVED
MAR 24 2015
HEALTH FACILITIES & SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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

Re: Project #15-007 Herrin Hospital

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am submitting this formal letter of support to enthusiastically endorse Herrin Hospital's proposed modernization and expansion project. As a lifelong resident of the city of Herrin, I can attest to the facility's commitment to my community not only as a provider of healthcare, but also as a business leader and good steward.

As one of the larger employers in Herrin, it is a comfort to know that we have such an innovative "hometown" hospital at our disposal. As an integral part of the SIH system, Herrin Hospital has made it possible for South Side Lumber employees that are in need of standard procedures, as well as emergency care to no longer have to travel to Carbondale, IL, which saves time away and monies lost for time off. Having a hospital that is well known for both rehabilitation and emergency services, including recognition for outstanding work responding to heart attack patients, can only shine a positive light on the facility, but with that spotlight comes more patients and a greater need for updated equipment and expansion. The hospital must expand and update to be able to accommodate the demand that is put upon their goal for excellence in patient care and that can only benefit the entire community.

I wholeheartedly endorse the hospital's pursuit of the Certificate of Need to usher in another era of consistent, advanced health care in southern Illinois.

Sincerely,

Kent Smith
South Side Lumber
Owner/Operator
1300 S. Park Ave., Herrin, IL 62948

Carl L. Goodwin
1900 South 27th St.
Herrin, Illinois 62948

March 17, 2015

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

Re: Project #15-007 Herrin Hospital

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am submitting this formal letter of support to enthusiastically endorse Herrin Hospital's proposed modernization and expansion project. As a lifelong resident of the city of Herrin, I can attest to the facility's commitment to my community not only as a provider of healthcare, but also as a business leader and good steward.

For example, when the city's largest employer, Maytag, closed its doors nearly 13 years ago, this hospital assisted city and economic development leaders in retraining displaced workers. This joint endeavor ultimately resulted in new, lifelong health care careers for many of former Maytag employees. Today, the hospital provides jobs to over 900 residents from across the region. I am also especially grateful the hospital's forward-thinking physician recruitment efforts and the breadth and depth of surgical specialists that now offer services at my hometown hospital. Over its 100-year history, "my hospital" has grown in size and sophistication; and I know from the dramatic increase in surgical cases over the last few years that this modernization and expansion is needed.

I wholeheartedly endorse the hospital's pursuit of the Certificate of Need to usher in another era of consistent, advanced health care in southern Illinois.

Sincerely,

Carl L. Goodwin

SIH MEDICAL GROUP

March 17, 2015

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

Re: Project #15-007 Herrin Hospital

Dear Ms. Avery,

I kindly ask that you accept this letter as an endorsement of Herrin Hospital's proposed modernization and expansion of surgical services. As one of the longest-standing physicians on the hospital's medical staff, I can attest to the facility's growth and development over the last 40 years to meet the health needs of the regional community.

As a past medical director of the intensive care unit, I have witnessed the genesis of the hospital's ability to provide complex, advanced surgeries and the unprecedented demand in what was once a rural, hometown hospital. Today, surgeons perform a plethora of sophisticated procedures, ranging from bariatric to urological, gynecological, and even neurosurgical cases unheard of at Herrin Hospital just 10 short years ago. These services are vital to my patients, as they ensure an exceptional caliber of care locally. Furthermore, the availability of these services negates the burden and expense of travel to areas outside of our state for the same care.

Herrin Hospital's leadership has had the foresight to meet the needs of patients not only today, but also in the years to come. I respectfully ask for your support of this proposed project.

Sincerely,

Pramote Anantachai, MD

404 Lincoln Drive

Herrin, IL 62948

MONCHINO MANAGEMENT LLC

March 18, 2015

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

Re: Project #15-007 Herrin Hospital

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am submitting this formal letter of support to enthusiastically endorse Herrin Hospital's proposed modernization and expansion. As a business owner and 33 year resident of the City of Herrin, I can attest to the facility's commitment to my community not only as a provider of healthcare, but also as a business leader and good steward.

For example, when the city's largest employer, Maytag, closed its doors nearly 13 ago, Herrin Hospital assisted city and economic development leaders in retraining displaced workers. This joint endeavor ultimately resulted in new, lifelong health care careers for many of former Maytag employees. Without the hospitals participation many displaced workers would have uprooted their family and moved to seek employment elsewhere.

As our city's largest employer, the hospital provides jobs to over 900 residents from across the region. I am also especially grateful the hospital's forward-thinking physician recruitment efforts and the breadth and depth of surgical specialists that now offer services at my hometown hospital. I have personally met and know many of the physicians and staff. Their commitment to provide outstanding service to the community is second to none.

Over its 100-year history, "my hospital" has grown in size and sophistication. I know from the dramatic increase in surgical cases over the last few years that this modernization and expansion is needed. Without the proposed expansion Herrin and adjacent community residents will have to seek services elsewhere.

108 LOU ANN DRIVE • HERRIN, IL 62948
PHONE: (618) 988-9100 • FAX: (618) 988-8682 • WEB: WWW.MONCHINO.COM

I wholeheartedly endorse the hospital's pursuit of the Certificate of Need to usher in another era of consistence, advanced health care in Herrin and Southern Illinois.

Sincerely,

Michael W. Monchino

Home address:
12 Quail Run
Herrin, Illinois 62948