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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

October 20, 2015

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

RE: Letter of Support for MercyRockford Health System Project 15-038

Dear Ms. Avery:

I write on behalf of the Physicians at Rockford Gastroenterology Associates to offer support for the proposal to continue to provide vital health care services at MercyRockford Health System's Rockton Avenue campus.

We support MercyRockford's stated commitment to their Rockton Avenue campus. We note that the applicants have indicated they will continue to invest \$6-7 million on facility renovations and \$9-10 million in equipment upgrades and replacement each year. This investment is essential to assure the continued provision of services to the west side of Rockford.

We support any improvements that will be made on the Rockton Avenue campus. We also support MercyRockford's commitment to the residents of the west side of Rockford. We take pride in offering high quality care to all our patients. We believe geographic diversity is important for equal access to healthcare for all who live in the Rockford area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Joseph Vicari MD'. The signature is written in a cursive style.

Joseph Vicari, MD
Managing Partner