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UAW

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June 3, 2011

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JUL 21 2011

HEALTH FACILITIES & SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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

Re: letter of Support for Affiliation between Methodist Health Services Corporation and Iowa Health System

Dear Ms. Avery,

Please allow me to introduce myself, I am the Chairman of Insurance and Benefits of *UAW Local 974* with offices located in Tazewell County, Illinois. UAW Local 974 has been located in East Peoria for more than 60 years and we currently have thousands of members, retired and active. The purpose of my letter is to express my full support of the proposed affiliation between Methodist Health Services Corporation and Iowa Health System.

Our Union has enjoyed a positive business relationship with Methodist for a very long time. Iowa Health System enjoys a very positive reputation for the quality of care its hospitals and clinics provide. I believe an affiliation between these two entities will be good for Peoria.

More specifically, I am confident that this affiliation will directly benefit our members and their families by positively impacting the cost-effectiveness of health care services provided throughout the area. I am also certain that an affiliation between Methodist and Iowa will result in an overall improvement in the quality and accessibility of health care throughout this geographic region.

Therefore, on behalf of, UAW Local 974 I am offering our support and would respectfully encourage the Planning Board to approve the Certificate of Exemption for the affiliation between Methodist Health Services Corporation and Iowa Health System.

Sincerely,

J. J. Arrowood

Jim Arrowood
Chairman of Insurance and Benefits
Email: benefits@uawlocal974.org

JA:sdl/opeiu#9/afl-cio-clc