

Via Facsimile
(217) 785- 4111

July 22, 2011

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Mike Constantino, Supervisor
Project Review Section
Illinois Health Facilities and
Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, Fl. 2
Springfield, Illinois 62761

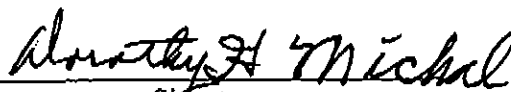
Re: Project #: 11- 037 Oak Forest Hospital, Oak Forest, Illinois

Dear Mr. Constantino:

I am firmly opposed to the closing of Oak Forest Hospital, in order to convert it into a regional outpatient facility of clinics. They dismantled the clinics that were functioning at the Oak Forest Hospital campus and have wasted millions of dollars that should have been used for services and for general hospital maintenance. As residents of the south suburbs, we are paying millions of dollars in real estate taxes for healthcare to be provided at Oak Forest Hospital, the only county hospital in this area. I agree with Representative Mary Flowers, that this is a "criminal" matter. Our right to have good healthcare services provided in this hospital is being violated. The for-profit hospitals in this area are not prepared to handle the overwhelming number of patients. Furthermore, they have been on by-pass and, also, have been cherry-picking their patients for years. The closing of Oak Park Hospital will only make that situation worse, not better. Patients are dying in the streets after being turned away from the other hospitals, and attempting to reach Provident and Stroger Hospitals. They are both too far to travel when a patient is already sick, and time is of the essence.

Therefore, Mr. Constantino, we are asking that you and the board, please vote to allow Oak Forest Hospital to remain open to serve the medical needs of the south suburban residents, who desperately need these services.

Sincerely yours,


Signature

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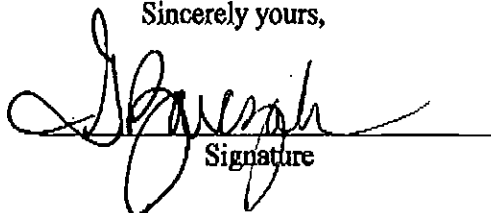
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