July 21, 2011

Dale Galassie, Chairman Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board Fax: 217-785-4111

Dear Chairman Galassie:

I am writing in opposition to the proposal (12-037) to discontinue services at Oak Forest Hospital. I urge you to deny the request by the Cook County Health and Hospitals Systems Board.

In March and May of 2011, the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board concluded that the Oak Forest proposal would increase the number of intensive care / long-term care beds needed and cause a capacity crunch at surrounding hospitals. Also, the board concluded that there is no indications that surrounding hospitals can or will accept these patients. The current proposal from the county does nothing to address these concerns.

For these reasons, we ask you to deny the County's request.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Geblis,

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Cather Pakery CNA