

Thursday, July 19, 2012

12-050

RECEIVED

Courtney Avery, Administrator and Board Members
Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson
Springfield, Illinois 62761

JUL 23 2012

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Dear Ms. Avery and Board Members,

Thank you very much for your consideration in taking the time to air the process to transfer the Certificate of Need from Jackson County to RFMS.

I am writing this letter on behalf of the residents, families, and concerned citizens of Jackson County and most importantly, my mother who is a resident of Jackson Rehab Care Center.

Closing of the Jackson Rehab Care Center in Murphysboro, Illinois is not endorsed by the majority of residents, taxpayers, and nursing home staff. Selling the facility and keeping it in Murphysboro would be a better option for the residents, taxpayers and staff. Moving residents from a nonprofit to a profit facility in Carbondale would only increase costs, increase unemployment, decrease staff pay, discriminate against the poor and decrease resident care.

Please do not transfer the Certificate of Need for the following reasons:

1. My Mother's and many other's Property taxes built and paid for the facility and their subsequent property taxes helped subsidize the fringe benefits of this facility. She is a 91 years old lifelong resident of Jackson County.
2. My mother is a Dementia Resident and would be put at heightened risk for disorientation, stress, anxiety, and separation from her familiar caregivers and surroundings. She may never get beyond the move. The Scientific Research Medical Staff at the Alzheimer's Association say the worst thing you can do is move anyone from one facility to another.
3. Forcing my mother out of her legal home is inhumane and unconstitutional. She is happy and does not want to adjust to a new environment.

At one time, the facility had surplus funds which should have been used for capital improvements, code upgrades, and investments in quality standards as a normal practice of running a good operation. However, the county used the surplus funds at their discretion for other county agencies.

I am seriously concerned about my mother's well being. I have a moral and financial responsibility to see that there are no detriments to her health and care. Also, had the county gone out and advertised to sell the facility nationally, then someone may have

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bought the business and facility at the Fair Market Value and kept the operation in Murphysboro, Illinois.

Please have compassion and do not transfer the certificate of need. Speculating that new construction will flow perfectly over the next 2 years is somewhat of a gamble for the residents of the facility.

On behalf of the residents, staff and community of Jackson County, it is our hope that the State Board denies the request of the transfer of the certificate of need from the county to RFMS.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth Purcell". The signature is fluid and elegant, with the first letter of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Concerned daughter, Elizabeth Purcell

Cc: Governor Quinn
Cc: Attorney General, Lisa Madigan
Cc: State Senator, 58th David Luechtefeld
Cc: State Representative, Mike Bost