



OFFICE OF THE SENATE PRESIDENT
STATE OF ILLINOIS

JOHN J. CULLERTON
SENATE PRESIDENT

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HEALTH FACILITIES
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

327 STATE CAPITOL
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706
217-782-2728

July 11, 2013

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

13-041
13-042
13-043
13-044

Dear Ms. Avery:

Thank you for the opportunity to write to you on the matter of the Certificate of Need application regarding the merger between Vanguard Health Systems and the Tenet Healthcare Corporation. I write to share my support for the expedited consideration of the merger and ask that it be considered at the August 13, 2013 meeting of the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board.

Weiss Memorial Hospital is located in my Senate District. The hospital plays a critical role in our community by providing health services and programming to residents of the 6th District as well as the surrounding areas. The impact of Weiss Memorial Hospital's services reaches far beyond the services they provide for the ill and injured. The hospital is a reliable partner in our community with significant programming to support its members, including: school supply donations to benefit local children, free health screenings and support groups, as well as community outreach programs for Polish, Russian, Spanish and Vietnamese residents of our area.

As you know, Vanguard's hospitals and network leadership will remain in place and Tenet Healthcare Corporation has committed to maintaining current services for a minimum of two years.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to write to you on this important matter. I look forward to seeing Weiss Memorial Hospitals and its sister facilities in the Vanguard Health System continue to benefit residents in my district and the surrounding area after the merger is complete.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

John J. Cullerton
Senate President

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