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CAPITOL OFFICE:
207 - N STRATTON BUILDING
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706
217. 782. 0387
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TERRI BRYANT
STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 115TH DISTRICT

RECEIVED

MAR 25 2015

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

March 12, 2015

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson (2nd Floor)
Springfield, Illinois 62761
Re: Project #15-007 Herrin Hospital

Dear Ms. Avery,

I would like to take this opportunity to share how essential Herrin Hospital is to the greater southern Illinois community as a provider of quality care for over a century. As a safety net hospital in a region with 20.8% poverty level, I have always appreciated the organization's mission to provide health care to all patients, regardless of their ability to pay. Their organizational values are clearly documented, as Herrin Hospital consistently provides a tremendous amount of charity care via Health Assistance Program and bad debt write-offs. In fact, during fiscal year 2014, Herrin Hospital's total charity care amount \$14,168,026, an increase of over 26% from 2012.

The hospital's physician recruitment efforts have brought over half-dozen surgical specialist to the facility in recent years, which has decreased outmigration for inpatient and outpatient surgeries. Ongoing recruitment efforts aim to bring in at least three more surgical specialists over the next 12 to 18 months. This is especially crucial for low-income and vulnerable families in southern Illinois, particularly due in part to the region's dual designation as a Health Professional Shortage Area and a Medically Underserved Area.

As a legislator whose region includes Herrin Hospital, I can attest to the hospitals commitment to the health and well-being of the communities it serves and look forward to the facility's growth and development in the years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "T. Bryant", written over a horizontal line.

State Representative
Terri Bryant
District 115



JOHN A. LOGAN COLLEGE
700 Logan College Road
Carterville, Illinois 62918

RECEIVED

MAR 25 2015

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

March 20, 2015

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

RE: Project # 15-007 Herrin Hospital

Dear Ms. Avery,

As president of John A. Logan College, I am submitting this formal letter of support endorsing Herrin Hospital's proposed modernization and expansion project. Herrin Hospital is a vital part of the Southern Illinois Healthcare (SIH) system. John A. Logan College and SIH have had a longstanding relationship for many years. Its various health facilities have provided clinical sites for the College's health programs.

With over 900 employees, Herrin Hospital is renowned for its rehabilitation, orthopedic and bariatric services. The newly expanded Emergency Department included the region's first accredited Chest Pain Center. The hospital is also home to a nationally acclaimed acute rehabilitation program offered through an alliance with the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago. Additional accomplishments of national merit include success in rapid stroke care and cardiac care (American Heart Association/American Stroke Association) and Bariatric Center of Excellence honors.

In its 100-year history, Herrin Hospital has always strived to stay abreast of medical and technological advancements to provide appropriate care for their patients. This proposed project involves construction of a one-story addition to meet current and future demands for essential surgical, endoscopic and minor procedures to patients in the hospital's primary service area.

Please accept my endorsement of Herrin Hospital's quest to secure state approval for this \$23.7 million project. If I can be of any assistance or provide additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mike Dreith, Ph.D.
President

DIRECT EXTENSION ACCESS: (618) 985-2828 or 457-7676
OPERATOR: (618) 985-3741, 549-7335, 542-8612, 937-3438, TTY 985-2752
WEB SITE: <http://www.jalc.edu>

*John A. Logan College does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion,
color, national origin, disability, age, sexual orientation, or gender orientation.*



JOHN A. LOGAN COLLEGE ■ Carterville, IL 62918

March 20, 2015

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

Re: Project #15-007 Herrin Hospital

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am submitting this **formal letter of support** to enthusiastically endorse Herrin Hospital's proposed modernization and expansion project. The project would benefit many of the healthcare programs at John A. Logan College.

The College has had a good long-standing relationship with Southern Illinois Healthcare. SIH's Education and Simulation Center occupies the third floor of the College's E-wing and trains medical personnel continuously.

I wholeheartedly endorse the hospital's pursuit of the Certificate of Need to usher in another era of consistent, advanced health care in southern Illinois.

Sincerely,

Tim Daugherty, Ph.D.
Vice-President of Student Affairs and Community Education
John A. Logan College
700 Logan College Road
Carterville, Illinois 62918

TD/slw



JOHN A. LOGAN COLLEGE
700 Logan College Road
Carterville, Illinois 62918

March 20, 2015

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

Re: Project #15-007 Herrin Hospital

Dear Ms. Avery,

I support the Certificate of Need (CON) for Herrin Hospital's operating room expansion. I worked at Herrin Hospital when this particular operating room was built. That addition was many years ago and Herrin Hospital has grown significantly larger and provides many more services now. I know this because John A. Logan College Nursing programs, which I am the Director, utilizes the hospital heavily for clinical experiences. The expansion would provide more patients the care they need and deserve in the community in which they live. Herrin residents are very loyal to their hospital. Herrin Hospital provides good care, has excellent physicians and staff but, has literally outgrown their operation room department.

Again, I want to emphasize the importance of Herrin Hospital's expansion to allow greater opportunities to provide good patient care in the rural southern Illinois region and to enhance the education of new health care employees, especially nursing. Herrin Hospital needs the expansion desperately.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Palaster, MSN, RN
John A. Logan College
700 Logan Road
Carterville, IL. 62918

DIRECT EXTENSION ACCESS: (618) 985-2828 or 457-7676
OPERATOR: (618) 985-3741, 549-7335, 542-8612, 937-3438, TTY 985-2752
WEB SITE: <http://www.jalc.edu>

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THE BANK OF HERRIN

March 17, 2015

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

Re: Project #15-007 Herrin Hospital

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am submitting this formal letter of support to enthusiastically endorse Herrin Hospital's proposed modernization and expansion project. As a lifelong resident of the city of Herrin, I can attest to the facility's commitment to my community not only as a provider of healthcare, but also as a business leader and good steward.

For example, when the city's largest employer, Maytag, closed its doors nearly 13 years ago, this hospital assisted city and economic development leaders in retraining displaced workers. This joint endeavor ultimately resulted in new, lifelong health care careers for many of former Maytag employees. Today, the hospital provides jobs to over 900 residents from across the region. I am also especially grateful the hospital's forward-thinking physician recruitment efforts and the breadth and depth of surgical specialists that now offer services at my hometown hospital. Over its 100-year history, "my hospital" has grown in size and sophistication; and I know from the dramatic increase in surgical cases over the last few years that this modernization and expansion is needed.

I wholeheartedly endorse the hospital's pursuit of the Certificate of Need to usher in another era of consistent, advanced health care in southern Illinois.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Hudson'.

Mike Hudson
President & CEO

HERRIN
101 S. PARK AVE. PO BOX B
HERRIN, IL 62948
P: 618.942.6666
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Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago - Physiatry Services
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS HEALTHCARE

3224 S. Park Avenue
Herrin, IL 62948
618.351.4980
Fax: 618.993.8418

March 17, 2015

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

Re: Project #15-007, Herrin Hospital

Dear Ms. Avery,

My name is Dr. Brent Newell. I am a specialist in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. I have been practicing here in Herrin, IL since 2001 in affiliation with the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago and Southern Illinois Healthcare. I am also the president-elect of the medical staff at Herrin Hospital. This letter is to support the proposed modernization and expansion of surgical services at Herrin Hospital.

This is a much needed expansion and modernization. There has been a significant increase in surgical and procedural cases during my time at Herrin Hospital. I have personally been involved in this through injection procedures I provide. We have been dealing with increasingly cramped spaces due to more high tech equipment taking more space as well as the other needs of a modern operating area or procedure room. We have also been dealing with increased usage, and our current space is well over capacity.

I anticipate this modernization and expansion to benefit me and my patients. It will provide easy access to specialty services in the region, and in particular, for those who are the neediest and would have much more difficulty in traveling outside the area for such care. Southern Illinois Healthcare provides a significant level of care to low-income and uninsured patients, with a large portion of that care being provided at Herrin Hospital.

Thank you for your consideration of this very worthwhile project.

Sincerely,

Brent Newell, MD
3224 S. Park Ave.
Herrin, IL 6294

March 17, 2015

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

RE: Project #15-007 Herrin Hospital

Dear Ms. Avery,

Please accept this letter of support to endorse Herrin Hospital's proposed modernization and expansion project. As a lifelong resident of the City of Herrin, I can declare that facility's commitment to my community not only as a provider of healthcare, but also as a business leader and good steward.

Nearly thirteen years ago when Maytag, the city's largest employer closed, this hospital assisted city and economic development leaders in retaining displaced workers. This partnership resulted in new lifelong health care careers for many former Maytag employees. Herrin Hospital employs over 900 residents from all across our region. Over its 100 year history, this hospital has grown in size and sophistication. I know as the City of Herrin Building Codes Inspector that the volume of surgical services has increased to a height that modernization and expansion are needed.

I wholeheartedly endorse the hospital's pursuit of Certificate of Need to usher in another era of consistent, advanced health care in southern Illinois.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael C. Cerutti". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "M" and "C".

Michael C. Cerutti
3015 Kirkland Lane
Herrin, IL 62948

March 16, 2015

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

Re: Project # 15-007 Herrin Hospital

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am submitting this formal letter of support to unconditionally endorse Herrin Hospital's proposed modernization and expansion project. As a 35 year resident of the city of Herrin, I can attest to the facility's commitment to my community not only as a provider of healthcare, but also as a business leader and good steward.

Herrin Hospital provides critical and essential care to the residents of Herrin, as well as the surrounding communities and counties. Southern Illinois has a disproportionately high number of elderly, poor and low income residents, most of which depend entirely on the Herrin Hospital for their healthcare, as well as inpatient and outpatient surgery needs. With the area being recognized for its shortage of health care professionals and medical services, it is imperative that the hospital continue to expand to meet the growing needs of the area. I have personally utilized the hospital for emergency services and surgical needs, and I am grateful to have this facility in our community.

As Southern Illinois continues to grow, it is important for Herrin Hospital to lead the way, not only as the largest employer in the city, but with its forward thinking physician recruitment efforts and insight to the necessity to expand to meet the areas growing surgical needs. Herrin Hospital has a proven track record with rehabilitation, orthopedic and bariatric services, as well as being the region's first accredited Chest Pain Center.

I unquestionably endorse the hospital's pursuit of the Certificate of Need to usher in another era of consistent, advanced health care in Southern Illinois.

Sincerely,



David Hesterberg
1808 S. 27th St.
Herrin, IL 62948

March 23, 2015

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

Re: Project # 15-007 Herrin Hospital

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing to lend my support to enthusiastically endorse Herrin Hospital's proposed modernization and expansion project. As a former employee (10 years) of Herrin Hospital, I can attest to the facility's commitment to the community not only as a provider of healthcare, but also as a business leader and good steward.

On many occasions, in the position of Hospital Chaplain, I observed the hospital full to capacity. I have also personally experienced quality care from the Emergency Department as well as two surgeries and two out patient procedures. There is a great need for expansion to continue to provide quality care in our community. Although I live in Marion, Herrin Hospital is my hospital of choice.

I wholeheartedly endorse the hospital's pursuit of the Certificate of Need to offer the best and consistent advanced health care in southern Illinois.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frederick W. Edwards".

Frederick W. Edwards
1809 Calico Road
Marion, IL. 62959

March 23, 2015

Frank Colombo
212 E. Madison Street
Herrin, IL 62948

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

RE: Project # 15-007

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing this letter to express my full support to the proposed expansion to the Herrin Hospital. The Hospital has become one of the main economic engines in our community employing over 900 people and creating a number of businesses that provide support services for our health care system.

The primary endorsement for this project, however is the value it creates as a health care provider to our community as well as a number of surrounding communities that need and use this facility. We are no longer required to travel to St. Louis, Springfield or Chicago to receive first class medical care for the majority of our health care needs.

We need this Hospital and proposed expansion to serve our current and future needs.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frank Colombo". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Frank Colombo