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Steven A. Andersson
STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 65TH DISTRICT

Project No. 17-057

Committees:

- Appropriations - General Services
- Cities & Villages
- Judiciary - Civil
- Museums, Arts & Cultural Enhancements
- Renewable Energy & Sustainability
- Small Business Empowerment & Workforce Development
- Transportation: Regulation, Roads & Bridges

December 12, 2017

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

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DEC 27 2017

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

RE: Valley Ambulatory Surgery Center, St. Charles Project 17-057

Dear Ms. Avery,

Please accept this as my strong support for Valley Ambulatory Surgery Center, L.P.'s ("VASC") Certificate of Need application (Project 17-05) to relocate to a new building with modern, state-of-the-art design and an improved clinical environment for patients and staff. VASC has provided outpatient surgical procedures in St. Charles from the same building since 1987.

On November 14th, I was privileged to tour VASC and met with physicians and staff. I was very impressed with their dedication in providing patient-focused outpatient surgical care for residents in District 65. However, the need for modernization is very apparent. Several of the needs include:

- The building is not handicap-accessible, and many doors fail to reach ADA requirements,
- The fire sprinkler lines leak, periodically requiring closure of the facility. Recurring false alarms are the result of a malfunctioning fire alarm system.
- There are recurring electrical and plumbing problems and it is not cabled for modern IT needs.
- There is insufficient storage space for operating room equipment, soiled linen and biohazard waste.
- The exterior of the building requires roofing and foundation repairs.

In short, the existing facility is in need of many repairs, has serious design deficiencies, and is no longer tenable as an ambulatory surgery center. VASC's plans to relocate to a new building with a more efficient and modern design that is compliant with current ADA and NFPA codes and best practices, will ensure that patient care is not interrupted for massive and expensive required repairs. The new building will be located only one-quarter mile from the existing facility, making it convenient for patients and staff.

I fully support VASC's efforts to offer a modern and efficient facility that is consistent with current codes and best practices, and I encourage you to approve VASC's applications.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Andersson".

Steve Andersson
District 65