

November 12, 2019

Richard Sewell, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Re: Support of Project #19-043

Dear Mr. Sewell,

Please approve the recent Certificate of Need application filed by Metroeast Endoscopic Surgery Center to add podiatry, pain management, ophthalmology and orthopedic surgery services in Fairview Heights. As a satisfied patient, I appreciate being able to have surgery in an ambulatory surgical center where services often cost 25% of what they would if performed in a hospital. These lower costs help everyone, patients like me and our employers who pay for expensive health care. Further, I much prefer the convenient ASC setting over having to navigate a hospital campus to obtain these services.

For many folks in my community, the Fairview Heights surgery center is the only option for receiving this convenient, lower cost care, as it is the only ASC in the area for which Medicaid patients constituted a large portion of its cases. This surgery center serves nearly a 1,000 Medicaid patients every year. It would be great to expand access to Medicaid patients by increasing the number of specialties available at MESC.

For these reasons, I wish to lend my support to MESC's application, and I respectfully request the HFSRB approve it

Best regards,



Meghan Kreher
13 S. Belleville St
Freeburg, IL
62243