



Clinton County Rural Health

Affiliated with HSHS Medical Group

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

November 20, 2019

Ms. Courtney Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62702

Re: Project #19-043
Metroeast Endoscopic Surgery Center

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am writing this letter to oppose the addition of orthopedic surgery services at the existing Ambulatory Surgery Treatment Center (ASTC) in Fairview Heights. As a primary care physician, I currently see patients at my offices in Clinton and Madison counties which are within the noted GMA of this project. A 10% of my patients require referral to an orthopedic surgeon for further treatment and/or surgery. I have not personally witnessed difficulty in scheduling appointments for patients in need of orthopedic services. In reviewing utilization data for HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital, Breese, the hospital routinely has 72% of its operating rooms available for scheduling every week. In my opinion, this shows that there are opportunities each week for orthopedic cases to be scheduled, eliminating the need for additional operating rooms in the area.

The addition of orthopedic surgical rooms as proposed would negatively impact the surgical volume for these hospitals and lead to an over-abundance of surgical rooms for the area. For these reasons, I respectfully ask that you deny the proposed addition of surgical specialties at Metroeast Endoscopic Surgery Center.

Sincerely,

Brian Klostermann, MD