

August 28, 2020

Courtney Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities & Review Board
525 W. Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761
courtney.avery@illinois.gov

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Re: Opposition to CON Application #20-17 – Metro East Endoscopic Surgery Center (MESC)

Dear Ms. Avery:

I respectfully ask that the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board (IHFSRB) deny CON Application #20-17. As described therein, Project #20-17 relies entirely on shifting outpatient orthopedic surgeries away from our rural surgery department at HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital - Breese. Over the last several of years, we've seen a decrease in our orthopedic surgical volume due to the opening of two new tertiary hospitals within a 25-mile radius.

Allowing MESC the CON Application would further saturate the marketplace in our area and potentially cause closure of services and lost jobs within our hospital. Currently there are several options for orthopedic care within our service area and those services are not at or near capacity.

As a leader at HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital Breese, I am asking you to please oppose CON Application #20-17 requested by MESC to allow us to continue to offer high-quality orthopedic care within our community.

Respectfully,



Carl Kuhl
Supply Chain Director
HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital
Breese, IL