December 21, 2020

Illinois Health and Services Review Board 525 W. Jefferson St. 2nd Floor Springfield, Illinois 62761

To Whom it May Concern:

Please accept this as my support for the addition of Ophthalmology and Pain Management to the O'Fallon Surgical Center/Physicians' Surgical Center in O'Fallon, Illinois. Surgery centers are the future of healthcare. We are fully aware that the government, CMS and almost all private insurances are putting their weight behind the movement of outpatient surgical procedures to surgery centers across the country. Insurances like Blue Cross Blue Shield and United Healthcare are actually requiring a prior authorization for surgeries if they have to be done in a hospital. It is a shame that this is not a national mandate, because we all know that these surgery centers provide the same level of care and service that hospitals do at less than a third of the cost. It is a shame that not everyone stands behind this concept and lends its support to them. I would like the addition of these specialties to Physicians' Surgical Center, and I am hoping they will continue to provide the kind of service there that they have done for the last more than 20 years in their present locality.

I have firsthand experience in utilizing outpatient services and can attest to the efficiency, quality and professionalism provided by the staff at the Surgery Center. Ease of access and convenience are also critical factors to ensure all patients receive services regardless of any factors other than patient choice. O'Fallon Surgical Center demonstrates this and will continue to provide access with the additional specialties in the proposal.

Sincerely,

Ray Colem