



DECATUR REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

February 2, 2023

Via Personal Delivery

Ms. Debra Savage, Chairwoman
IL Health Facilities & Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson St., Second Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RECEIVED

FEB 08 2023

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Re: Support Letter: HSHS St. Mary's Hospital in Decatur / Certificate of
Need (CON) Application for Discontinuation of Services

Dear Chairwoman Savage:

As a voice of business for the Decatur community, we support HSHS St. Mary's Hospital's thoughtful approach to modernize its facility and operations, invest back in the community, and ensure that St. Mary's continues to be a respected facility in our community for years to come.

We understand that as part of this process and because of major financial challenges and utilization, St. Mary's will file a CON application for the discontinuation of obstetrical, inpatient behavioral health, pediatric and inpatient rehabilitation services. We also understand that efforts are in place to retain impacted HSHS employees within the hospital system.

We are grateful that St. Mary's Hospital has plans to modernize the hospital facility with a \$90 million investment, subject to your approval of an additional CON application to be filed later this calendar year. The project includes significant construction to enhance surgical services, patient areas and other clinical spaces while addressing the removal of an aging portion of its current facility.

We are thankful that HSHS St. Mary's Hospital will continue to provide high-quality, reliable and safe care to patients in our Macon County communities as over 20 healthcare services and specialties continue to be available. In addition, St. Mary's Hospital remains a top employer for residents in our area.

We recognize and appreciate the ongoing commitment of HSHS St. Mary's Hospital to our region – certainly as evidenced by the \$90 million modernization investment – and support the need of the hospital to address its significant financial deficits to ensure it continues to be a viable business and economic driver in Decatur for current and future generations.

Respectfully submitted,

Mirinda Rothrock

President

Decatur Regional Chamber of Commerce

Cc: John P. Kniery, HFSRB Administrator