

Rohi Patil, M.D., S.C.

DIPLOMATE, AMERICAN BOARD OF PSYCHIATRY AND NEUROLOGY

1770 EAST LAKESHORE DRIVE

DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62521

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(217) 423-6500

(217) 428-0600

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Via Personal Delivery

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

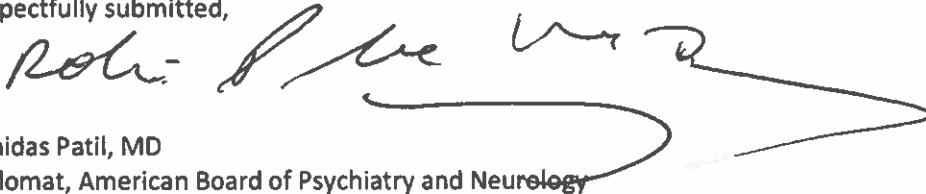
Re: Support Letter: Project #23-0006 HSHS St. Mary's Hospital in Decatur / Certificate of
Need Application for Discontinuation of Services

Dear Chairwoman Savage:

As a behavioral health physician in the greater Macon County area, I support HSHS St. Mary's Hospital's plans 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. I recognize and appreciate the commitment of HSHS St. Mary's Hospital to our region, as evidenced by their intended \$90 million investment into the hospital. I understand the hospital's need to address its significant financial deficits to ensure its viability for current and future generations. As part of this process and because of major financial challenges and utilization, I understand St. Mary's has filed a Certificate of Need ("CON") application for the discontinuation of obstetrical, inpatient behavioral health, pediatric and inpatient rehabilitation services.

In my area of expertise, behavioral health, I am pleased to see the groundwork of existing and growing partnerships across the community that solidify my support for this change. I feel that transitioning to intensive community-based outpatient services is in the best interest of the community. The goal to treat behavioral health patients earlier, implement crisis beds for patients in need and provide psychiatric care that is focused on returning patients to their home as soon as possible is shared by myself, St. Mary's Hospital and many other stakeholders in the community.

Respectfully submitted,



Rohidas Patil, MD
Diplomat, American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology

Cc: John P. Kniery, HFSRB Administrator