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Illinois House of Representatives
96th District
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August 1, 2023

Via Personal Delivery

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

RECEIVED

AUG 08 2023

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Re: Supporting Approval of HSHS St. Mary's (Decatur) CON for \$89 Million Modernization Project / Keeping Commitment to the Community

Dear Chairwoman Savage:

I am writing to express my support for CON application submitted by HSHS St. Mary's Hospital (Decatur) to invest \$89 million to modernize its facilities and services. With this application, the hospital shows its continued commitment to the healthcare needs of the Decatur area and the constituents of the 96th district.

Through this modernization project, HSHS St. Mary's seeks to fulfill its Mission – to both its staff and the community – by reimagining its healthcare services to continue providing high quality services despite financial pressures from medical advancements that reduce hospital stays, shortages within the healthcare workforce, and a declining population in the region.

I was able to recently tour the hospital to learn more about how the project will bring brand new operating rooms, a new sterilization room immediately adjacent to the operating rooms, and upgrades in various technology systems and equipment. The project will also restructure hospital services to maximize staff and patient efficiencies and tear down the obsolete east portion of the hospital.

This \$89 million modernization has been carefully planned to avoid any stoppage of current services.

The approval of the modernization CON application will allow HSHS St. Mary's Hospital to complete its right-sizing, both in size and services and continue its commitment to the Decatur community, and I request its approval.

Respectfully,

Sue Scherer
Illinois Representative, 96th District

Cc: John P. Kniery, HFSRB Administrator

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SOYBEAN INKS