

"The Voice of Business"

Location: 116 E. First Street \* O'Fallon, IL \* Mail: P.O Box 371 \* O'Fallon, IL 62269

September 9, 2024

<u>Via Hand Delivery</u> Hon. Debra Savage, Chairwoman IL Health Facilities & Services Review Board 525 W. Jefferson St., 2nd Floor Springfield, IL 62761



Re: Support for CON Application by HSHS St. Elizabeth's Hospital in O'Fallon / A Proposed New Ambulatory Surgical Treatment Center and Medical Office Building

Dear Chairwoman Savage:

Please accept this letter of support from the O'Fallon-Shiloh Chamber of Commerce for the Certificate of Need application filed by HSHS St. Elizabeth's Hospital.

In addition to meeting the healthcare needs of the O'Fallon community, St. Elizabeth's Hospital has been a good corporate citizen of our region. This CON application continues that track record of commitment by expanding the hospital campus to: (a) increase operating room capacity to address the significant OR over-utilization at St. Elizabeth's; (b) afford the involved surgical patients a more cost-effective outpatient option, with the patient volume needed to justify the ASTC coming from St. Elizabeth's and no other facilities; and (c) provide more medical office space to attract new specialties from outside our region – and not from area MOBs that are all fully occupied – to enable more localized care and address the current lack of available medical office space.

The planned \$54 million investment by HSHS St. Elizabeth's Hospital also represents a significant capital project that will create jobs in the Metro East region, and ultimately support local economic development with enhanced access to healthcare in downstate Illinois. I respectfully encourage the Review Board to approve this CON application.

Best regards,

Dellie and martinez

Debbie-Arell Martinez, President/CEO O'Fallon-Shiloh Chamber of Commerce

Cc: John P. Kniery, HFSRB Administrator

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