St. Clare of Assisi Roman Catholic Church

1411 Cross Street + O'Fallon, IL 62269 + (618) 632-3562 + stclarechurch.org

RECEIVED

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MEALTH FACILITIES &

September 9, 2024

Chairwoman Debra Savage Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board 525 W. Jefferson Street, Second Floor Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: Support Letter for CON of HSHS St. Elizabeth's in O'Fallon

Dear Chairwoman Savage:

I support the CON application presented to you on behalf of Hospital Sisters Health System – St. Elizbeth's Hospital (SEO), which carefully considers and requests the ability to introduce an ambulatory surgery center (ASC) and expanded medical office building (MOB) to its current healthcare campus in O'Fallon, IL. Much like the Catholic faith, SEO demonstrates a long-standing commitment to serving the community in a manner that addresses unmet need in an unbiased manner.

The Hospital Sisters have been caring for the Metro East region since 1875 and we are preparing to celebrate their 150th anniversary in 2025. Founded by the Hospital Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis, today St. Elizabeth's Hospital maintains a Gold Seal of Approval from the Joint Commission. The Sisters commitment to be the very best for southern Illinois persists yet today.

As leader of the St. Clare of Assisi Parish in O'Fallon, IL, I value the foundational mission principles of SEO. Because SEO embodies the belief that every life is a sacred gift and every human being is united in body, mind, and spirit, I support SEO's growth in this community, especially when the foundation of that growth addresses unmet healthcare needs.

In addition to my role at St. Clare of Assisi Parish, I serve on the Hospital Sisters Health System Foundation Board of Directors and am a past SEO Board member. I remain engaged and committed to SEO and Hospital Sisters Health System. My advocacy for this CON request signifies my endorsement of SEO and their long-standing history of success.

Respectfully Submitted,

In James 6. Divers

Father James E. Deiters St. Clare of Assisi Church 1411 Cross Street O'Fallon, Illinois 62269