



Hospital Sisters
HEALTH SYSTEM

HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital
Breese, IL

HSHS St. Mary's Hospital
Decatur, IL

HSHS St. Anthony's Memorial
Hospital
Effingham, IL

HSHS Holy Family Hospital
Greenville, IL

HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital
Highland, IL

HSHS St. Francis Hospital
Uitchfield, IL

HSHS St. Elizabeth's Hospital
O'Fallon, IL

HSHS Good Shepherd Hospital
Shelbyville, IL

HSHS St. John's Hospital
Springfield, IL

HSHS St. Mary's Hospital
Medical Center
HSHS St. Vincent Hospital
Green Bay, WI

HSHS St. Clare Memorial
Hospital
Oconto Falls, WI

HSHS St. Nicholas Hospital
Sheboygan, WI

HSHS Medical Group

Prairie Cardiovascular

Honorable Debra Savage, Chairperson
Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson St., Second Floor
Springfield, IL 62762

Re: Opposition to CON #25-012
Proposed New ASTC in Mt. Zion

RECEIVED

MAY 20 2025

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Dear Members of the Review Board,

As Chief Mission Officer of Hospital Sisters Health System (HSHS), I am writing to formally oppose Certificate of Need Application #25-012 submitted by Surgical Partners & Associates, LLC, proposing the establishment of a new ambulatory surgical treatment center (ASTC) in Mt. Zion, Illinois. It is my understanding that this project as presented does not meet statutory or regulatory requirements under the Illinois Health Facilities Planning Act in general. My additional concerns lie around potential impact on services and programs that are currently provided by HSHS St. Mary's Hospital.

HSHS St. Mary's Hospital is vital to ensuring access to timely care for all Macon County residents. It is a mission-based, non-profit hospital. We are committed to serving all, especially patients who are uninsured, underinsured, geographically isolated, or otherwise face barriers to care. We do know from 2023 Census Data for Macon County that:

- 4.1% of the county are uninsured
- 20.7% of the county are on Medicaid
- 15.7% of the county were on Medicare
- 15.7% of households are living below the poverty line
- 18.3% of households are ALICE households: Not low enough income for Medicaid or other government programs, but Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed. This data represents the number of families who are unable to afford the basics of housing, childcare, food, transportation, health care, and technology – and are not eligible for government assistance based on income.

As a tax-exempt hospital, our charitable purpose is to provide health care services and to also improve the health of their community, with a focus on members who are vulnerable and disenfranchised. A person should never have to make the decision to seek care based on if they can afford it or not.

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As stewards of this healthcare ministry, we are responsible for sustaining the Mission our founding Hospital Sisters established and carefully managing our resources to take care of all God's children, particularly those most in need. Redirecting high-margin orthopedic surgeries to another entity, as the proposed ASTC will do (potentially 84% of outpatient orthopedic volume loss for St. Mary's), would greatly undermine our ability to continue to fund and maintain the tremendous financial support for our patients along.

I respectfully ask the Review Board to assess the impact of this project on all existing healthcare providers and communities and deny this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachelle Barina". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Rachelle" and last name "Barina" clearly distinguishable.

Rachelle Barina, PhD, MA, HEC-C
Chief Mission Officer
Hospital Sisters Health System