



HSHS
St. Elizabeth's
Hospital

1 Saint Elizabeth's Boulevard
O'Fallon, IL 62269

An Affiliate of Hospital Sisters Health System

June 9, 2026

Debra Savage, Chairperson
Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761
Dph.hfsrb@illinois.gov

Re: Project 26-012 Touchette Regional Hospital/SIHF Healthcare Replacement Hospital

Dear Ms. Savage,

Please accept this letter of support for the proposed new hospital campus in Cahokia Heights, Illinois.

I am writing to express my strong support for the Touchette Regional Hospital Replacement Hospital Certificate of Need Project 26-012. This initiative to build a 108-bed community hospital on a new campus in Cahokia Heights will provide critical care to residents and enhance access to essential health services across southern Illinois.

The planned facility will significantly expand behavioral health resources, including 96 mostly private beds for adults, geriatrics, and adolescents. Notably, the new adolescent behavioral health unit will fill a much-needed gap in care for youth south of Springfield. The addition of advanced outpatient services, such as a state of the art Emergency Department, Surgery, GI, Radiology, Lab, Pulmonary testing, and Intensive Outpatient Behavioral Health, will further strengthen the hospital's ability to serve the community.

I commend the thoughtful approach to campus flexibility and future expansion, as well as the commitment to maintaining some outpatient services at the current location and exploring supportive and affordable housing options. These efforts demonstrate a dedication to both immediate needs and long-term community wellness.

This project, with its substantial funding from state grants and TRH's own financing, represents a forward-thinking investment in public health. I fully support your efforts and look forward to the positive impact the new hospital will have on Cahokia Heights and the surrounding region.

If additional information or advocacy is needed, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your leadership and vision in advancing this important project.

Sincerely,

Chris A. Klay, MA, PT, MHA, FACHE
President and CEO
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