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Mr. Ben Steffen Executive Director Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Avenue Baltimore, Maryland 21215-2299

Dear Mr. Steffen:

I write on behalf of Johns Hopkins Medicine to express general support for the Final Report and Recommendations of the Certificate of Need Modernization Task Force.

We agree that with health care changing rapidly, it is imperative that the regulatory framework of the State be reviewed and adapted as necessary to support the mandate of health care reform. We also agree that to meet this need, the Certificate of Need program needs to evolve and change. It is difficult to be definitive regarding the described regulatory and statutory changes until specific language is available for review and discussion, but the suggested changes hold promise for creating a more rational, efficient Certificate of Need program that will achieve the goals of regulation with less unnecessary burden and expense.

The areas for further study that have been described offer the opportunity to engage in a deeper, more focused analysis of some of the more complex and contentious areas of CON regulation in Maryland. We look forward to participating in this work.

Finally, I would like to thank you and your staff, Commissioner Sargent, the Task Force members and other participants in the process. I greatly appreciate the thoughtful, thorough process you conducted with good communication and accessibility for all.

Sincerely,

Anne Langley