



# MARYLAND Department of Health

Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Robert R. Neall, Secretary

Office Health Care Quality  
7120 Samuel Morse Drive  
Second Floor  
Columbia MD 21046

March 21, 2020

Ben Steffen, Executive Director  
Maryland Health Care Commission  
4160 Patterson Avenue  
Baltimore MD 21215

Dear Mr. Steffen,

As you are aware, on March 5, 2020, Governor Hogan issued a proclamation that a state of emergency and a catastrophic health emergency exists in Maryland, due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Based on the increased need for acute general hospital beds due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Office of Health Care Quality is requesting that the Maryland Health Care Commission apply its authority under COMAR 10.24.01.20 to grant an emergency certificate of need to Meritus Medical Center .

Meritus Medical Center has requested licensure for a proposed 5 bed inpatient unit on 5 West that will be constructed in existing office space adjacent to Unit 5West. The construction will take approximately one month.

The Office of Health Care Quality recommends this certificate of need should be approved on an emergency basis, and based on the information provided by the hospital, these beds can be provisionally licensed as part of Meritus Medical Center.

Please contact me if you have any questions at (410)402-8090 or (443)681-0278.

Sincerely,

Renee B. Webster, Deputy Director Federal Programs