

**Richard G. Bennett, M.D.**  
President

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

Dear Mr. Steffen:

I am writing to express my support for the Johns Hopkins Surgery Centers Series' ("JHSCS") certificate of need application, proposing to renovate existing space and add a second operating room to the White Marsh Surgery Center ("WMSC"). The main volume source for this project is the movement of operating room cases, currently performed at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center ("JHBMC") to the WMSC.

As is detailed in the application, JHBMC, JHSCS, and the WMSC leadership assessed the impact of shifting operating room cases from JHBMC to the WMSC. This assessment was evaluated using both current utilization statistics, as well as with respect to long-term projections included in JHBMC's pending certificate of need application (Docket No. 18-24-2414). JHBMC's pending application requests approval for the capital expenditures associated with a campus redevelopment project that includes construction of a New Inpatient Building ("NIB") and renovation of two existing buildings on its campus. JHBMC currently utilizes its fourteen operating rooms on its campus in excess of the MHCC's 80% optimal capacity threshold, and will continue to operate above this threshold even after the cases slated to shift to the WMSC have moved.

By adding additional operating room capacity at the WMSC, the WMSC will play a critical role in allowing JHBMC's faculty and providers to offer high-quality outpatient care in the most cost-effective and medically-appropriate setting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Bennett".

Richard G. Bennett, M.D.