(place on organization letterhead)

June XX, 2024

The Honorable [Legislator First Name, Last Name]

California State Assembly

1021 O Street, [Insert Room Number for Legislator]

Sacramento, CA 95814

**SUBJECT:** **SB 1432 (Caballero) – SUPPORT**

Dear Assembly Member [Legislator Last Name]:

California must do all it can to ensure patients have uninterrupted access to health care. A**ccess to these vital services is at risk due to impending seismic deadlines. Nearly all hospitals throughout California have retrofitted or replaced buildings over the past decade to ensure they do not collapse in an earthquake, making patients and health care workers safer. Now, many of these same h**ospitals face a stringent 2030 operational standard, and hospitals that cannot meet the deadline will be required to close their doors.Understanding the challenges hospitals continue to face, **[insert hospital name] is proud to support Senate Bill** **(SB) 1432 (Caballero, D-Merced), which would create a pathway for deadline extensions for the 2030 mandate and require the state to analyze, and report to the Legislature on, the mandate’s impact on health care costs and access across the state.**

Our hospital has already met the 2020 state standard for building integrity, ensuring that our building will remain standing after a major earthquake. The 2030 mandate goes beyond structural safety in requiring that a building be reasonably capable of **providing services** following an earthquake. This mandate will further add significant construction and borrowing costs, at a time when our hospital is facing rising costs for labor, supplies, and other needs. In addition to the financial investment, planning and implementing infrastructure projects of this scope takes time.

SB 1432 would provide our hospital with the potential for an extension up to 2038 to comply with the 2030 requirements, giving us an opportunity to assess how we can meet these requirements **without jeopardizing access to care** in our communities. It would also require hospitals to enhance their disaster plans to ensure continuity of patient care, and to annually report to the Department of Health Care Access and Information on how hospitals are complying with these requirements. The bill also includes several measures to ensure accountability and transparency, including construction milestones and reporting of seismic compliance plans to state and local government and interested stakeholders to secure the extension.

The proposed extensions and requirements for hospitals provide the time needed to retrofit or rebuild buildings. Without legislative reform, access to vital health services is at risk throughout California. Extending this deadline would ensure that 2030 seismic compliance can be approached in a way that preserves access to care for our patients. For these reasons, [insert hospital name] respectfully requests your “YES” vote on SB 1432.

Please contact [insert name and contact info] if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

[Insert CEO name and title]