(place on organization letterhead)

April 9, 2024

The Honorable Richard Roth

Chair, Senate Health Committee

State Capitol, Room 3310

Sacramento, CA 95814

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

Dear Senator Roth:

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 extend the deadline 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 spent (insert cost of meeting first seismic requirement) to meet the first seismic requirement, ensuring our building will remain standing after a major earthquake. The 2030 mandate goes beyond structural safety to require that a building be reasonably capable of **providing services** following an earthquake. Over the past decade, our hospital has faced rising costs for labor, supplies, and pharmaceuticals. This mandate will add significant construction and borrowing costs, currently estimated at (insert potential cost of 2030 seismic compliance for your organization).

In addition to the financial investment, planning and implementing infrastructure projects of this scope will take time. To meet this mandate, our hospital must:

* (Insert 2-3 bullets about your 2030 seismic requirement plans.)

This plan will require our hospital to move, change, or eliminate services while under construction. Specifically:

* (Insert 2-3 bullets describing the effect the construction and/or cost would have on hospital services, as well as any effect this would have on the provision of services to the community.)

SB 1432 would provide our hospital until January 1, 2038, to comply with the 2030 requirements. This extension would provide an opportunity to assess how we meet 2030 requirements **without jeopardizing access to care**. In addition, our hospital would strengthen our disaster plan and annually submit master plans to the Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) detailing how we plan to comply with these requirements.

Hospitals should not be forced to prioritize construction over patient care. 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

cc: The Honorable Anna Caballero

 The Honorable (insert senator from your hospital’s district)

The Honorable Members of the Senate Health Committee

Vince Marchand, Consultant Senate Health Committee

Joe Parra, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus

 Tim Conaghan, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus