

**BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS
COUNTY OF BERGEN**

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Freeholder Vice Chairwoman

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Valerie Coniglio
Clerk to the Board

Edward J. Florio
Counsel to the Board

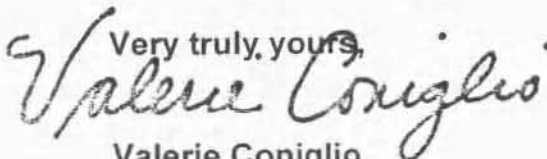
December 18, 2008

The Honorable Jon. S Corzine
New Jersey Governor
P.O. Box 001
Trenton , NJ 08625

Dear Governor:

We are enclosing certified copy of resolution # 1938 adopted by the Bergen County Board of Chosen Freeholders at it's meeting held on December 17 , 2008, supports and petitions the State of New Jersey Department of Health to expeditiously approve the application for a certificate of need for HUMC North Pascack Valley.

Very truly yours,



Valerie Coniglio
Clerk to the Board

VC/dg
Enc.

c: HUMC North at Pascack Valley
Heather Howard, Health Commissioner
Pascack Valley Mayors Association
Northern Valley Mayors Association





2008

NONCONSENT

BERGEN COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS RESOLUTION

MEMBERS	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CALABRESE				
CARROLL	✓			
GANZ	✓			
MCPHERSON	✓			
O'BRIEN	✓			
WALTON			✓	
PADILLA, CHAIRMAN	✓			
TOTALS	6	-	1	-

Resolution No. 1938
 Date: December 17, 2008
 Page: 1 of 2
 Subject: Bergen County's Support of HUMC's Application for a Certificate of Need
 Purpose: To Re-Establish a Hospital at the Former Pascack Valley Hospital
 Account No. _____
 Contract No. _____
 Dollar Amount: _____
 Prepared By: WSM

Offered by: _____
 Seconded by: PADILLA
 Approved by: O'BRIEN

Certified as a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders on above date at a Regular Meeting by:

Valerie Coniglio

Valerie Coniglio, Clerk, Board of Chosen Freeholders, Bergen County, New Jersey

WHEREAS, prompt and efficient delivery of medical services is a vital component of our society; and

WHEREAS, for over fifty (50) years this need was met, in substantial part, by Pascack Valley Hospital and the subordinate medical offices and facilities which were located in the neighborhood and communities surrounding the Hospital; and

WHEREAS, the unexpected closure of Pascack Valley Hospital in November of 2007 struck a severe blow to the region which completely disrupted the long standing system of delivering emergency and non-emergency medical care; and

WHEREAS, the remaining hospitals in the region, by reason of distance, travel time, and lack of public transportation have been unable to fill the void left by Pascack Valley Hospital; and

WHEREAS, it is important to recognize that the extra travel time and distance to the surrounding hospital facilities has placed an undue burden on volunteer ambulance corps in surrounding communities and upon the citizens, particularly senior citizens, residing in the area and who need to travel to the hospitals for treatment or assistance at said facilities; and

WHEREAS, it is important to recognize that the extra travel time and distance to the surrounding hospital facilities has placed an undue burden on volunteer ambulance corps in surrounding communities and upon the citizens, particularly senior citizens, residing in the area and who need to travel to the hospitals for treatment or assistance at said facilities; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that Hackensack University Medical Center ("HUMC") has made an application to the State of New Jersey Department of Health for a Certificate of Need in order to permit it to re-establish a community hospital through its Legacy Joint Venture Project, at the location of the former Pascack Valley Hospital to serve the residents of Pascack Valley and the Northern Valley Region; and

WHEREAS, the new HUMC/Legacy Joint Venture will re-establish a community hospital which provides fewer than half the beds originally operated by Pascack Valley Hospital (128 vs. 291 beds); and

WHEREAS, since the final Reinhardt Report of the New Jersey Commission on rationalizing healthcare resources was published, 696 beds at three hospitals in Bergen and Passaic Counties have closed; and

WHEREAS, the Reinhardt Report indicated a surplus of 527 beds in this region by the year 2010, and a surplus of 254 beds by 2015; therefore, with the closure of 696 beds, resulting in a bed need of 442 beds, the addition of 128 beds at the new community hospital is well within the recommendations of the Reinhardt Report for the years 2010 and 2015; and

WHEREAS, HUMC/Legacy Joint Venture will provide a major benefit to the economy of Bergen County in that it will create an estimated 1,000 permanent new jobs, as well as several hundred temporary construction jobs during the renovation of the entire facility; and

WHEREAS, HUMC/Legacy Joint Venture will be a 100% privately funded entity that will pay property taxes to both the County and the Borough of Westwood; and

WHEREAS, the system of medical care delivery, including physicians' offices, clinics and off-site medical facilities has grown around the Pascack Valley Hospital over the last fifty (50) years and the disruption of that system, which would inevitably result from the permanent closure of the former Pascack Valley Hospital, will have, over time, an even greater negative impact on medical care and quality of life in the surrounding communities than has already been experienced; and

WHEREAS, the new HUMC/Legacy Joint Venture entity will bear the name Hackensack University Medical Center North at Pascack Valley and will remain totally clinically integrated with the current HUMC.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bergen County Board of Chosen Freeholders, hereby supports and petitions the State of New Jersey Department of Health to expeditiously approve the application for a Certificate of Need for HUMC North at Pascack Valley.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution is sent to HUMC North at Pascack Valley, Governor John S. Corzine, Health Commissioner Heather Howard, Pascack Valley Mayors Association and Northern Valley Mayors Association.