

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE GENERAL COURT
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1053

June 29, 2010

Attorney General Martha Coakley
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
One Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02198

Dear Attorney General Coakley:

We write today to express our support for the acquisition of Caritas Christi Health Care by Steward Healthcare System LLC, and ask that you approve this transaction in an expedited fashion so that the Commonwealth may begin benefiting from this exciting development in Massachusetts healthcare.

The Steward transaction will bring financial stability to the tenth largest employer in Massachusetts -- protecting over 12,000 jobs, paying off all of Caritas' debt, and fully funding the Caritas pension system protecting the retirements of Caritas' 13,000 pensioners. The transaction will also provide Caritas access to the capital necessary to modernize its six hospitals and bring state of the art medical care to our communities. In fact, Caritas has already begun over \$100 million dollars in new construction projects at its hospitals -- generating over 4,000 new jobs in Massachusetts in the process.

Finally, the conversion of Caritas' six hospitals -- St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Brighton, Carney Hospital in Dorchester, St. Anne's Hospital in Fall River, Holy Family Hospital in Methuen, Good Samaritan Hospital in Brockton, and Norwood Hospital in Norwood -- to for-profit tax status is projected to generate over \$100 million in new taxes for these communities over the next five years alone. This badly needed tax revenue will help our communities pay for critical services during these challenging economic times.

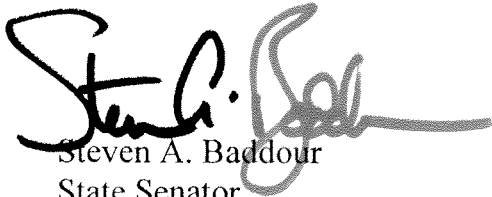
This transaction also ensures that Caritas' CEO, Dr. Ralph de la Torre, will remain at the helm of Caritas, and that Caritas will continue to be a Massachusetts based company. Since Dr. de la Torre became CEO just a couple years ago, Caritas has quickly emerged as a leader in providing high quality, lower cost healthcare in the communities where people live.

It is truly remarkable that Dr. de la Torre and his team at Caritas have managed to do all of this while burdened by crippling debt, and no access to frozen debt markets. We are excited at the prospects of what Caritas will be able to accomplish in the years to come

for our communities, and for Massachusetts healthcare generally, with access to the badly needed capital that this transaction provides.

We hope your review of this transaction can be completed promptly so that our communities and the Commonwealth's healthcare system can begin experiencing its many benefits.

Respectfully,



Steven A. Baddour
State Senator
First Essex District



Linda Dean Campbell
State Representative
Fifteenth Essex District



Brian S. Dempsey
State Representative
Third Essex District