



August 8, 2019

M. Norman Oliver, MD, MA
State Health Commissioner
Virginia Department of Health
109 Governor Street, 13th Floor
Richmond, VA 23219

Re: COPN VA-8462

Dear Dr. Oliver,

The Arlington Chamber of Commerce asks for your support for the Certificate of Public Need (COPN) application being submitted by Virginia Hospital Center to establish an outpatient surgical hospital, containing four operating rooms, in Planning District 8, within Health Planning Region II. The four operating rooms are already in the existing inventory and will be transferred from Virginia Hospital Center.

The Arlington Chamber of Commerce is a membership organization of more than 750 businesses and organizations whose mission is to strengthen businesses and the economic environment for those who work, live, and do business in Arlington.

Virginia Hospital Center continues to provide exceptional, high-quality care to our community as it has for the past 75 years. This outpatient surgical hospital would provide cost-efficient care in a setting that is most convenient and efficient to all the communities they serve. This center will build on the considerable service that Virginia Hospital Center already provides to our community through its existing in-patient and out-patient services and community benefits.

Virginia Hospital Center is the only independent hospital in our region. Virginia Hospital Center serves more than 115,000 Arlington residents—over half the county's population—every year. Allowing them to build this outpatient surgical hospital would enable them to continue to provide low-cost, accessible healthcare. Approving this facility request will provide all those who work and live in our area a low-cost option to receive care in their community with improved access.

The Chamber strongly supports this COPN application and asks you to approve this request to allow for the development of this new outpatient surgical hospital in our community.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Kate Bates
President & CEO

CC: Erik Bodin, Director, Certificate of Public Need Program; Piero Mannino, Supervisor, Certificate of Public Need Program; Dean Montgomery, Executive Director, Health Systems Agency for Northern Virginia; Adrian Stanton, Vice President for Business Development, Virginia Hospital Center