



HIGHLAND
DISTRICT HOSPITAL

April 13, 2021

House Civil Justice Committee

Re: H.B. 222 – Proponent Testimony

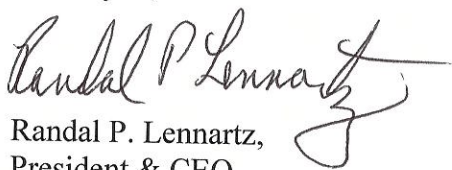
Dear House Civil Justice Committee members,

Chair Hillyer, Vice-Chair Grendell and Ranking Member Galonski and members of the Committee, thank you for providing me the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on House Bill 222.

It would be beneficial for House Bill 222 to pass. As a small, rural, public hospital, we struggle with the ability to expand the scope of our services for the residents of our community. In many instances, we do not need the full-time services of some medical specialties and look to form partnerships or joint ventures with other hospitals to share these specialties. The possibility that these partnerships or joint ventures could be considered “public entities” makes it very hard to complete such deals, thereby limiting the services we can offer in our local communities. House Bill 222 specifies that these types of arrangements are separate entities, not part of the hospital and therefore not public entities.

Chair Hillyer, Vice-Chair Grendell and Ranking Member Galonski and members of the Committee, thank you again for the opportunity to submit written testimony.

Thank you,



Randal P. Lennartz,
President & CEO