

City of Jacksonville

City Manager's Office

August 8, 2017



Christopher Ullrich, M.D., SHCC Chair
Sandra Greene, Dr. P.H., Acute Care Service Committee Chair
North Carolina State Health Coordinating Council and Acute Care Service Committee
c/o Medical Facilities Planning Section
Division of Health Service Regulation
2714 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-2714

Re: Wilmington Health Petition for Additional Operating Rooms in Onslow County

Dear Mr. Ullrich and Ms. Greene:

As the City Manager of the City of Jacksonville, I am writing to express my concern relative to the Wilmington Health petition, which could add two additional operating rooms in Onslow County. Currently, our community is serviced through a variety of medical facilities for normal healthcare services. However, Onslow Memorial Hospital is the primary surgical center in our community. As you are aware, Onslow Memorial Hospital treats all patients whether they are indigent or whether they have the ability to pay for services. The concern that I have as City Manager is one of financial contributions made by the taxpayers to support the Onslow Memorial Hospital. It is my understanding that Wilmington Health will be providing services to paying customers, but will not be providing services to the indigent. Therefore, any person who receives services at Wilmington Health is a person who could potentially have received those services at Onslow Memorial Hospital and contributed to the revenues of OMH. This loss could have a negative impact on the already strained revenue sources of Onslow Memorial.

Given this concern, I am asking you to look closely at the Wilmington Health proposal. If you find that they will not be serving the indigent, but rather serving only paying customers, I would ask that you deny their request. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard L. Woodruff".

Richard L. Woodruff
City Manager

cc: Mayor
City Councilmembers