

Southeastern Surgical Center
2934 N. Elm Street – Suite E
Lumberton, North Carolina 28358
Rakesh Kumar, MD
(910) 739-0022

July 25, 2018

Lyndon K. Jordan, M.D.
Chairman, Technology and Equipment Committee

And

Christopher Ullrich, M.D.
Chairman, State Health Coordinating Council

North Carolina Division of Health Service Regulation
Healthcare Planning and Certificate of Need Section
2704 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-2704

RE: Southeastern Health's Petition for an Adjusted Need Determination for Linear Accelerator Equipment

Dear Drs. Jordan and Ullrich:

As a physician practicing in the area, I am aware of Southeastern Health's expertise and experience in radiation oncology services, and specifically linear accelerator services. I regularly refer my patients in need of these services to Southeastern Health and I fully support Southeastern Health's petition for an adjusted need determination for one additional linear accelerator in Robeson County. Southeastern Health operates the only linear accelerator in the county and as I understand, it is one of the busiest linear accelerators in the state.

There are many unique demographic and socioeconomic factors in Robeson County that contribute to the need for increased linear accelerator capacity. Robeson County has the highest percentage (nearly 70 percent) of minority residents in the state and nearly the lowest per capita income in the state, both of which contribute to a higher presence of health risk factors and higher cancer incidence and mortality rates. These demographic and socioeconomic factors also mean that many patients in Robeson County do not have the financial or transportation means to seek healthcare outside the county. As the leading provider of healthcare services in Robeson County, it is imperative that Southeastern Health have sufficient capacity to provide services, including linear accelerator services, to all residents of the county.

Given these facts, I strongly encourage you to approve Southeastern Health's special need adjustment petition.

If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,


Rakesh Kumar, MD

Southeastern Surgical Center
2934 N. Elm Street – Suite E
Lumberton, North Carolina 28358
Roberto Arias Gautreaux, MD
(910) 739-0022

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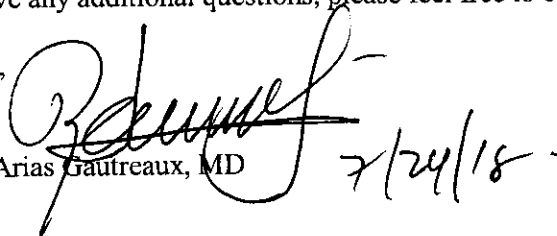
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SOUTHEASTERN|HEALTH

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Samuel E. Britt II".

Samuel E Britt II MD FACS DABS