

HARTSVILLE/TROUSDALE COUNTY METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT
RESOLUTION #2021-10-714

**A RESOLUTION OPPOSING PROPOSED STATE LEGISLATION TO MODIFY
HEALTH CARE FACILITIES CERTIFICATE OF NEED REQUIREMENTS AND
OPPOSE ALLOWING THE HEALTH SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY TO EXPIRE**

WHEREAS, Community hospitals provide life-saving emergency care and preventive care to their communities; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly has established a certificate of need program that assists in the efficient and effective allocation of resources in the state; and

WHEREAS, community hospitals operate in a highly regulated market and do not enjoy the freedoms of a free market due to federal regulations and market dominance by insurance companies; and

WHEREAS, certificate of need criteria helps to ensure that health care facilities operate to serve the community, and allocation of health resources is best accomplished by retaining the certificate of need process under the auspices of the Health Services and Development Agency; and

WHEREAS, removal of certificate of need criteria allows operators that are not required to serve all of the community to pick profitable services that starve the local community hospital from revenue necessary to subsidize indigent and charity care; and

WHEREAS, Community hospitals are struggling under the strain of responding to COVID-19 and evolving reimbursement from federal and insurance sources; and

WHEREAS, Allowing the Health Services and Development Agency to expire will threaten the financial viability of community hospitals and risk increased hospital closures in rural Tennessee.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hartsville/Trousdale County Commission hereby declares its opposition to proposed legislation which would modify the population or services to which certificate of need would apply and supports legislation extending the statutory authority for the Health Services and Development Agency to implement and operate the certificate of need process.

Motion to approve: Gary Claridy

Vote of General Consent

Second motion: Shane Burton

ABSENT 1


VACANCY 1

RESOLVED AND DECLARED IN REGULAR SESSION ON MARCH 22, 2021

APPROVED:

ATTEST:


Dwight Jewell
Commission Chair


Rita Crowder
County Clerk

