From: Bill Price

To: <u>Hutchison, Carol</u>; <u>DHSR.SMFP.Petitions-Comments</u>

Cc: <u>avamcdonald@dosher.org</u>

Subject: Comments at the July 26 Public Hearing on the Proposed 2012 State Medical Facilities Plan.

**Date:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 9:32:43 PM

<u>Subject</u>: Comments at the July 26 Public Hearing held by the North Carolina State Health Coordinating Council on the Proposed 2012 State Medical Facilities Plan.

## Carol Price:

I live in Southport, N.C. in Brunswick County. I am at the hearing to speak in support of J. Arthur Dosher Hospital's Nursing Center (hereafter referred to as Dosher). My Mother-in-law was previously at another nursing facility in Southport. At that facility, I and my husband had great concerns for the quality of care. Also, the bathrooms are too small for wheelchair access causing my Mother-in-law to use a bedside pot. In contrast to this treatment, Dosher's Doctor Holland immediately examined my Mother-in-law upon admission and adjusted her medications to suit her needs. Patient treatment in all aspects is consistently outstanding. Dosher staff treat their patients like they were their own family members. Dosher is only one of four nursing centers in North Carolina to have a five-star rating. Dosher has an existing 14 additional nursing beds available for a waiting list of patients but needs approval by appropriate N.C. officials. Appropriate N.C. officials should take all actions necessary on an urgent basis so that Dosher can use its existing and available nursing beds as soon as possible, and the Proposed 2012 State Medical Facilities Plan and subsequent similar Plans should be revised accordingly.

## Bill Price:

I am also at the hearing to fully support Dosher receiving any and all necessary N.C. approvals as soon as possible to use its existing and available, but unused, nursing beds. Based on personal experience and observation of other nursing facilities in Gaston and Brunswick Counties, there is no place better to have such beds available than at Dosher. (Moreover, Dosher is rated as "one of the best nursing homes in America" in the February 2010 issue of <u>U.S. News and World Report magazine</u>. Only 173 nursing homes in the nation are rated the best. In addition, Dosher has consistently earned each year a 5-star rating, the highest distinction given by the Federal Centers for Medicare and Medical Services.) Dosher's existing nursing beds are immediately available and are urgently needed by a long list of patients waiting to use them. Appropriate N.C. officials should take all actions necessary on an urgent basis so that Dosher can use its existing and available nursing beds as soon as possible, and the Proposed 2012 State Medical Facilities Plan and subsequent similar Plans should be revised accordingly.

Carol & Bill Price

2766 Harbormaster Drive SE

Southport, N.C. 28461

910-253-7143 <u>prices3@aol.com</u> <u>wprice10@ec.rr.com</u>