

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF CLAYTON

RESOLUTION NO. 2010 - 60

A RESOLUTION BY THE CLAYTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RECOGNIZING AND SUPPORTING SOUTHERN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER'S CERTIFICATE OF NEED APPLICATION TO OFFER OPEN HEART SURGERY; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS RESOLUTION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, there is not a single open heart surgery provider in the metropolitan Atlanta area south of I-20 where more than 850,000 people reside; and

WHEREAS, Clayton County is the fifth most populous county in Georgia, and each of the larger counties are approved to offer open heart surgery; and

WHEREAS, Southern Regional Medical Center ("SRMC") began offering cardiac services to our community in 1979, and has subsequently added additional cardiac services as needed by the community; and

WHEREAS, SRMC operates the only accredited Chest Pain Center with angioplasty in the southern metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, SRMC has one of the busiest emergency departments in the state with over 78,000 visits annually, including approximately 7,000 patients annually presenting with cardiac-related conditions; and

WHEREAS, SRMC has a higher number of emergency department visits than 70% of the state's existing and approved open heart surgery providers; and

WHEREAS, annually, almost 1,000 patients from Clayton and Henry Counties must travel to Atlanta for cardiac interventions in the form of open heart surgery or angioplasty at a facility with on-site open heart surgery back-up; and

WHEREASE, Clayton County has the second highest number of residents living below the federal poverty level of any metropolitan Atlanta county, and individuals living below the federal poverty level have documented problems accessing health services; and

WHEREAS, Clayton County has the highest proportion of African American residents of any metropolitan Atlanta county, African Americans have disproportionately high incidence of major cardiovascular disease, and mortality rates for African American residents in Clayton County experienced a significant increase in recent years; and

WHEREAS, state law requires that any hospital seeking to provide open heart surgical services must file an application for a certificate of need ("CON") to provide these services; and

WHEREAS, SRMC is seeking CON approval to begin offering open heart surgery services; and

WHEREAS, SRMC can bring open heart surgery services to the community without a major facility expansion, and at a cost of less than \$3 million; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners deems it in the best interest of Clayton County and the County will be best served by recognizing and supporting Southern Regional Medical Center's Application of CON to offer open heart surgery services.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

OF CLAYTON COUNTY, GEORGIA AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED

Section 1. The Clayton County Board of Commissioners, do hereby endorse, and actively support Southern Regional Medical Center's efforts to obtain a CON from the Georgia Department of Community Health for an open heart surgery program, and their efforts to enlist community support. Further, the Board finds that having an open heart surgery program available in the southern metropolitan Atlanta area will address barriers to obtaining timely access to care for the citizens of Clayton County regardless of their financial status.

Section 2. This Resolution shall be effective on the date of its approval by the Board of Commissioners.

SO RESOLVED, this the 16th day of February, 2010.

CLAYTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


ELDRIN BELL, CHAIRMAN

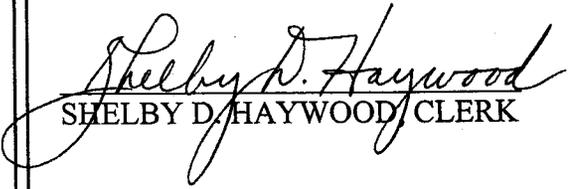

WOLE RALPH VICE CHAIRMAN


GAIL B. HAMBRICK, COMMISSIONER


SONNA SINGLETON, COMMISSIONER


WOLE RALPH, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:


SHELBY D. HAYWOOD, CLERK