

Resolution No. 1-21-18
Requested by: County Mayor

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

WHEREAS, Community hospitals provide life-saving emergency care and preventative 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 regulation and market dominance by insurance companies; and

WHEREAS, Certificate of need criteria help 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 allow 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 closures in rural Tennessee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Williamson County Board of Commissioners, meeting in regular session this the 11th day of January, 2020, 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;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon approval of this resolution and its signing, the Board of Commissioners directs the County Clerk's Office to mail a copy of this resolution to Williamson County's State Representatives and State Senators and the Governor of Tennessee.


Matt Williams - County Commissioner

COMMITTEES REFERRED TO & ACTION TAKEN:

Public Health Committee For 3 Against 1
Commission Action Taken: For ___ Against ___ Pass ___ Out ___

Elaine Anderson, County Clerk

Tommy Little, Commission Chairman

Rogers Anderson, Williamson County Mayor

Date