



Our Quality is High, and We Keep Care Local

The goal of the rural and community surgeon is to provide the best care nearest to home. Well-done rural and community surgery is safe and cost effective. Our hospitals do not do complex cases but can address many of the needs of our community members. Quality studies have repeatedly found that our outcomes are comparable to larger hospitals, and patients do not have to endure the costs and challenges of being transferred outside their home communities.

We Speak for All Rural and Community Hospitals

There are numerous other hospitals that would be similarly affected, and all Washington State hospitals are opposed to these provisions. In the interest of time, a smaller group of us are sending this letter, but we speak for all the rural and community hospitals of Washington. Please let us or your local hospital leader know how we can be of any assistance as you continue to deliberate on this issue.

We urge you to not pass the bill, or to remove or significantly modify these provisions of the bill.

Sincerely,

David Schultz, Market President
Harrison Medical Center, Bremerton and Silverdale
St. Anthony, Gig Harbor

Lois Erickson, Chief Operating and Nursing Officer
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