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May 22, 2015

Office of Governor Rick Scott
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor Scott,

Orlando Health welcomes the opportunity to reply to your May 8 letter seeking suggestions on how best to fund healthcare services provided to low-income Floridians, as the current Low Income Pool (LIP) Program will sunset on June 30. We are grateful for your support of the LIP Program as this supplemental funding allows Orlando Health to continue its mission to improve the health and quality of the life of the individuals and communities we serve. We stand in support of the Florida LIP Program redesign model that was submitted to the US Department of Health & Human Services.

As you may know, Orlando Health is one of Florida's most comprehensive private, not-for-profit healthcare organizations including Orlando Regional Medical Center, Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children, Winnie Palmer Hospital for Women & Babies, Dr. P. Phillips Hospital, South Seminole Hospital, Health Central Hospital and South Lake Hospital. We strive to meet the community's identified health needs, particularly in the vulnerable, uninsured, minority and underserved populations. We provide costly yet necessary services like level one trauma services for adults and pediatrics and neonatal intensive care services for the sickest newborn babies without being dependent on our community paying an ad valorem tax. We never lose sight of the fact that we have a mission to serve those in Central Florida, and in fiscal year 2013 alone, we provided more than \$270 million in value to our community, which averages nearly \$740,000 per day.

We serve as an economic engine as one of Central Florida's largest employers with 15,000 team members and nearly 3,000 affiliated physicians focused on achieving the very best outcomes for our patients. Our robust graduate medical education, nursing and allied health training programs are an important investment in the future healthcare workforce of Central Florida that will soon face a number of shortages. Currently, we serve as a major medical training site for the University of Florida, Florida State University, University of Central Florida and University of South Florida as well as from schools throughout the United States. In academic year 2013-14, there were 257 medical education residents at Orlando Health and over 314 medical education



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students that came through Orlando Health to train during medical school. In addition, Orlando Health trained 23 physician assistant students, 3,116 nursing students and over 2,143 allied health students including high school students. Orlando Health continues this great community mission of medical education without receiving ad valorem tax funding and takes great pride that we are not only serving the patients in our community, but training our future healthcare workforce.

Profit sharing would compromise our ability to operate as a safety-net provider and would jeopardize our commitment to providing medical excellence to Central Florida. In order to properly discuss any profit sharing model, we recommend that the Commission on Healthcare and Hospital Financing (Commission) establish goals and objectives, as well as a common set of terms and definitions to ensure that any profit sharing scenarios offer comparative values. Unfortunately, the Florida Hospital Uniform Reporting System and the hospital profile data requested by the Commission are both inadequate and will not effectively support the Commission's analysis of hospital operating margins, thus hindering deliberations on revenue sharing scenarios.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Strong". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the "g".

David Strong
President & CEO