

CITY HALL
HOBOKEN, NEW JERSEY

September 9, 2009

The Honorable Heather Howard
Commissioner
Department of Health and Senior Services
PO Box 360
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Dear Commissioner Howard:

I am writing on behalf of Hoboken University Medical Center (HUMC) to convey my strong support of their request for funding from the Health Care Stabilization Fund. As I know you are aware, the City of Hoboken acquired the hospital as recently as 2007 after considerable public debate and community support. We made this decision in recognition of its valuable contribution to the health and safety of our residents and their importance to our local economy.

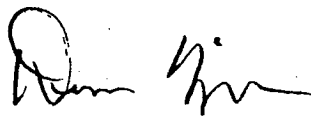
HUMC is located in a geographically and culturally unique location which significantly shapes the role it plays in the delivery of healthcare to our community. HUMC is the third largest employer in our city and for more than 147 years this community not for profit and now public hospital has provided access to needed health care for residents of Hoboken, Union City, a significant portion of Jersey City, along with West New York and Weehawken. Roughly 60% of the primary service area population is Latino and next year's census figures will probably show an even greater proportion of minorities, chiefly from Spanish-speaking countries.

The Hospital is a safety net for women, children, the elderly and people living with HIV/AIDS. Their health status and ability to seek care is compromised by poverty, lack of insurance, low education levels, and significant cultural differences. Many of these and other uninsured and underinsured patients use clinic services at the Hospital-supported Center for Family Health as their entry to care. The majority of these patients are living below the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines. More than one third of the residents relying upon the Hospital have no insurance and another third have Medicaid coverage. The geographical outlines of the Hoboken UMC present a significant barrier to the ability of potential patients, particularly those with limited access to paid transportation, to seek care elsewhere.

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

The recession and attending unemployment serve only to exacerbate the increasing lack of health coverage and access to needed medical care. These are difficult times for all of us but especially our vulnerable residents who rely on state and local government to provide a safety net for health and social services. The grant funds are necessary to preserve points of entry to access primary and related outpatient services. It is in that spirit that I simply urge and ask for your favorable consideration of the Hospital's application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dawn Zimmer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a distinct "Z".

Acting Mayor Dawn Zimmer



NEW JERSEY SENATE

BRIAN P. STACK

SENATOR, 33RD DISTRICT

5801 PALISADE AVENUE
WEST NEW YORK, NJ 07093

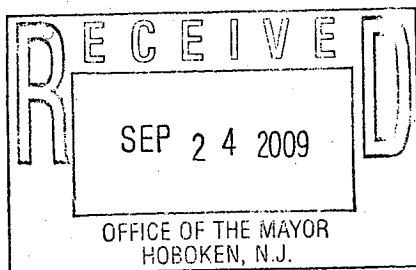
TEL. (201) 861-5091

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COMMITTEES:

VICE CHAIR - LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
MEMBER - BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS



September 21, 2009

Ms. Heather Howard
Commissioner
New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services
P. O. Box 360
Trenton, NJ 08625-0360

Commissioner Howard:

I am writing to express my support for Health Care Stabilization Funding for the Hoboken University Medical Center. Such funding is important for the following reasons:

- HUMC is the third largest employer in the City of Hoboken
- HUMC continues to provide much needed healthcare for the residents of municipalities in the 33rd Legislative District
- Approximately 60% of the primary service area is Latino
- More than one third of the residents relying upon HUMC do not have insurance. A third have Medicaid coverage.
- Many of the local patients who utilize HUMC do not have access to adequate means of transportation to visit facilities outside of the City of Hoboken

As evidenced by the above points, HUMC is critical to the region. I ask that you consider the sentiments brought forth by this correspondence. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Brian P. Stack
Senator

Cc: Mayor Dawn Zimmer, City of Hoboken



NEW JERSEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

RUBEN J. RAMOS, JR.
ASSEMBLYMAN, 33RD DISTRICT
70 HUDSON STREET-7TH FLOOR
HOBOKEN, NJ 07030
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COMMITTEES
ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS
ASSEMBLY EDUCATION

August 25, 2009

Ms. Heather Howard, Commissioner
New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services
P. O. Box 360
Trenton, NJ 08625-0360

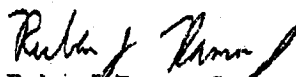
Ms. Howard:

I am writing to advocate for Health Care Stabilization Funding for Hoboken University Medical Center in the amount of \$10,704,000. The application for said funding was recently made by HUMC.

As conveyed by the administration of HUMC, stabilization funds are important to the operations of the hospital. Furthermore, HUMC is vital to the surrounding community as it serves a multitude of local residents who continue to seek first rate medical care from the facility that is located in their community.

In closing, I ask for your strong consideration in disbursing the requested stabilization funds to Hoboken University Medical Center.

Sincerely,


Ruben J. Ramos, Jr.
Assemblyman