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**STATEMENT FROM WEST VIRGINIA HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION REGARDING HB 2007, relating to Certificate of Need**

CHARLESTON, WV – *The following statement is made on behalf of the West Virginia Hospital Association (WVHA) HB 2007, relating to repealing the Certificate of Need Program:*

**WVHA Statement:** "We would like to thank legislators for demonstrating their unwavering commitment to prioritizing healthcare access for all West Virginians by rejecting House Bill 2007. Their actions to not repeal Certificate of Need through this bill signify a clear understanding of how vital accessible healthcare is to the wellbeing of our communities and the future of our state. We look forward to working collaboratively with Governor Morrisey and the entire Legislature as we strive to ensure that every West Virginian has access to the quality care they deserve. Together, we can build on this foundation to create an even stronger healthcare delivery system that serves all residents, regardless of where they live or their economic circumstances."

**About WVHA:** The West Virginia Hospital Association (WVHA) is the not-for-profit statewide organization representing West Virginia hospitals and health systems across the continuum of care. The WVHA was founded in 1925 to serve as the collective voice of the state's hospital community. Today, the mission of the WVHA is to support its members in achieving a strong, healthy West Virginia. Members of the Association envision a strong health care system that supports optimizing the health status of West Virginians served by hospitals and improving the economic condition of the state.