



ATTORNEY GENERAL GEORGE JEPSEN

ATTORNEY GENERAL OUTLINES STATE REVIEW OF PROPOSED ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL JOINT VENTURE

For immediate release

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HARTFORD – Attorney General George Jepsen has asked St. Mary's Health System Inc. and LHP Hospital Group, Inc. to submit a detailed application because their proposed joint venture, between a nonprofit hospital and a for-profit entity, requires state review and approval before it can proceed.

Jepsen made the request Friday in a letter to the hospital's attorney on behalf of his office and the state Department of Public Health, Office of Health Care Access, which are responsible for reviewing the application under state law.

St. Mary's, a Waterbury hospital which operates currently on a nonprofit basis, has 60 days to submit the application. Hearings are expected to begin in the fall. The deadline for a decision is four months after the application is made and determined to be complete, unless the parties agree to an extension.

"Access to good quality medical care is a necessity in Connecticut. Our review will ensure this continues to be the case in Waterbury," Jepsen said.

The state is seeking detailed and comprehensive information about the proposed sale. Jepsen has asked the hospital to submit a summary of the deal and any terms and conditions imposed; a detailed financial analysis of the transaction, including assessments of the fair market value of the hospital's assets and whether the deal will put them at risk. St. Mary's must also explain why it decided to accept this offer and detail other alternatives or offers that were rejected.

State officials are particularly interested in how the change in ownership will affect its patient populations; whether it will change medical services offered at the hospital's main campus in Waterbury and any satellite locations and how it will ensure that the community it serves has continued access to affordable health care.

Connecticut General Statutes § 19a-486 et seq. govern the sale of a nonprofit hospital. Assistant Attorney Generals Henry Salton and Gary W. Hawes are assisting Jepsen in this matter. Steven Lazarus, associate healthcare analyst, is the contact for the Office of Health Care Access.

View the entire letter to [St. Mary's Hospital](#)'s attorney - (PDF-633KB)

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