

Office of the Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs

2500 North State Street Jackson, Mississippi 39216-4505 (601) 984-1010

April 26, 2022

The Honorable Michael Guest 230 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: Congressionally Directed Spending request to fund an Adolescent Behavioral Inpatient Unit at the University of Mississippi Medical Center

Dear Congressman Guest,

On behalf of the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC), I write to confirm that the institution is committed to building the Adolescent Behavioral Inpatient Unit specifically for the unique needs of adolescent patients. UMMC has the ability and intent to self-fund any remaining costs related to this important project.

If funded, this project will create a new inpatient program at UMMC that will serve adolescents with behavioral and mental health needs, located on the main Jackson campus in a renovated space in the original Children's Tower. Currently UMMC has resources that provide for pediatric and adult mental and behavioral health needs, but inpatient resources for adolescents do not exist at the state's only academic medical center and need across the state for these placements is very high.

Please contact me if you have any questions or require any additional information. We sincerely appreciate your consideration of this critical funding request and thank you for your continued support of UMMC.

Sincerely,

Onathan A. Wilson, PhD, RN Chief Administrative Officer