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*Wilson Medical Center provides excellence in promoting, improving, and restoring health*

TO: Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee

FROM: Lori Smith, CFO

DATE: March 3, 2022

RE: Senate Bill 403 Proponent

On behalf of Wilson Medical Center we appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 403.

This bill is important because it allows our local EMS services to remain financially solvent to continue to provide critical access to connecting patients to the care that they need in Wilson County.

The legislation would allow voters in Wilson County to have a say in supporting the EMS Services through a sales tax ballot initiative without jeopardizing Wilson Medical Center's other sales tax revenue.

Wilson County Hospital's mission is to promote, improve and restore health. To accomplish this, the hospital depends on community resources, including the sale tax revenue, to successfully deliver healthcare to our communities and surrounding areas. Without these resources, the hospital would not be able to purchase state-of-the-art equipment to give excellent patient care. This has never been more evident with the pandemic the nation has and is facing at such a critical time.

Our EMS Services are critical to our ability to transport patients both to our facilities, but also from our facilities when they need higher acuity of care. As our county has continued to serve patients from this area, we continue to work closely with our partners across the community to ensure that we can retain EMS services in a way that doesn't put any other dedicated revenue streams at risk.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments. We ask that the committee recommend favorably Senate Bill 403.