

# Maintain Certificate of Need

## *Support Access to Quality Care for All Kentuckians*

Some state legislators want to eliminate a major component of Kentucky's healthcare system—one that protects our communities from self-interested actors and assures everyone in the Commonwealth has access to quality healthcare on a level playing field. **Maintaining the Certificate of Need process will help patients and our communities.**

### CON Means Quality, Experienced Healthcare Providers Are Available in Our Community.



Northern Kentucky is home to St. Elizabeth Healthcare, a CMS 5-star rated hospital. Kentucky's Certificate of Need process plays a big role in that, assuring only the highest quality, most experienced healthcare providers are serving our communities.

### CON Means Safety-net Care is Provided for Underserved Kentuckians.



Eliminating Certificate of Need would severely limit the ability of St. Elizabeth, which operates our region's safety-net hospitals, to continue delivering quality care to all community members, regardless of their ability to pay. Without CON, broad access to quality care and good health outcomes will suffer.

### CON Means Protecting Our Community from Self-Interested Actors in the Healthcare System.



If Certificate of Need was eliminated, insurance plans and out-of-state, for-profit healthcare companies could come into our communities, set up shop and cherry-pick only the most profitable services with the highest reimbursement rates and could refuse care to all who need it.

***When Certificate of Need is eliminated, patients and communities feel the negative consequences. Just look at what's happened in the states where lawmakers have made this misguided decision.***

Florida dropped its CON requirement in 2019 and, [as reported by USA Today](#), now has too many healthcare facilities popping up in the same areas, particularly in affluent communities, while people in more rural areas must travel hundreds of miles for care. **This disparity impacts healthcare staffing and leads to higher healthcare costs.**

**Maintaining CON will protect access to quality care for all Kentuckians!**