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April 5, 2018

The Honorable John G. Roberts, Jr.
Chief Justice of the United States
Supreme Court of the United States
1 First Street, NE
Washington, D.C. 20543-0001

**Re: Request For Extension of Time To File Petition For Writ Of
Certiorari To The United States Court Of Appeals
For The Federal Circuit
Alvarado Hospital, LLC, et al. v. Alex M. Azar II
Federal Circuit Case No. 2016-1356**

To the Honorable John G. Roberts, Jr., Chief Justice of the United States
and Circuit Justice for the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit:

Pursuant to Supreme Court rule 13.5, Alvarado Hospital, LLC and its co-plaintiff hospitals hereby request a 60-day extension of time, to and including June 15, 2018, in which to file a petition for writ of certiorari from the August 22, 2017 opinion of the United States Court of Appeals in the above case, as to which rehearing and rehearing en banc were denied on January 16, 2018.

A copy of the Federal Circuit's opinion, and the January 16, 2018 Order denying rehearing and rehearing en banc, are attached hereto. Pursuant to Supreme Court rule 13.3, the petition for certiorari on behalf of Alvarado Hospital, LLC and its co-plaintiffs is currently due in this Court on April 16, 2018.

28 U.S.C. § 1254(1) confers jurisdiction on this Court to review the opinion and judgment of the Federal Circuit. As shown by the majority and dissenting opinions below, this case involves significant questions concerning the jurisdictional requirements and directions of the Tucker Act and the Medicare Act.

Alvarado Hospital, LLC and its co-plaintiffs seek a 60-day extension of time, to and including June 15, 2018, in which to file a petition for writ of certiorari because they have not yet determined whether to file their

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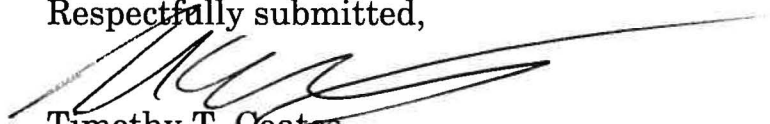
petition. Plaintiffs are affiliated with Prime Healthcare Services, Inc. and the Prime Healthcare Foundation, and are part of a large national health system. The decision to take the significant step of filing a petition in this Court is weighty, and plaintiffs' legal departments need additional time to consider the matter, in consultation with senior executives. They also require additional time to consider the practical impact of the Federal Circuit's ruling. Additional time is also needed, if a petition is authorized, to permit preparation and printing. We respectfully submit that good cause for a 60-day extension of time exists here.

On April 4, 2018, plaintiffs' counsel contacted the government's counsel at the Department of Justice and notified her that plaintiffs would be filing this application. She advised plaintiffs that she had communicated that information to Benjamin Shultz, the lead attorney representing respondent in the Federal Circuit, and advised him of this request. We are informed that Mr. Shultz has also communicated that information to the Office of the Solicitor General of the United States.

In addition, on April 5, 2018, we notified both Mr. Shultz and Michael Raab, counsel for respondent below, that plaintiffs would be filing this application.

For the above reasons, petitioners Alvarado Hospital, LLC and its co-plaintiff hospitals request a 60-day extension of time, to and including June 15, 2018, in which to file their petition for writ of certiorari in the above action.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures

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