#### **HEALTHSOUTH CORP**

Form DEF 14A

March 24, 2017

#### **UNITED STATES**

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A

(Rule 14-101)

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities

Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant ý

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant o

Check the appropriate box:

- o Preliminary Proxy Statement
- o Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- ý Definitive Proxy Statement
- o Definitive Additional Materials
- o Soliciting Material under Rule 14a-12

#### HealthSouth Corporation

(Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if Other Than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

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  - (1) Amount previously paid:
  - (2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:
  - (3) Filing Party:
  - (4) Date Filed:

March 24, 2017

#### Dear Fellow Stockholder:

I am pleased to invite you to attend our 2017 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of HealthSouth Corporation, to be held on Thursday, May 4, 2017, at 11:00 a.m., central time, at our corporate headquarters at 3660 Grandview Parkway, Suite 200, Birmingham, Alabama.

We will review our 2016 performance, discuss our outlook for 2017, and respond to any questions you may have. We will also consider the items of business described in the Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders and Internet Availability of Proxy Materials and in the Proxy Statement accompanying this letter. The Proxy Statement contains important information about the matters to be voted on and the process for voting, along with information about HealthSouth, its management and its directors.

Every stockholder's vote is important to us. Even if you plan to attend the annual meeting in person, please promptly vote by submitting your proxy by phone, by internet or by mail. The "Commonly Asked Questions" section of the Proxy Statement and the enclosed proxy card contain detailed instructions for submitting your proxy. If you plan to attend the annual meeting in person, you must provide proof of share ownership, such as an account statement, and a form of personal identification in order to be admitted to the meeting.

On behalf of the directors, management and employees of HealthSouth, thank you for your continued support of and ownership in our company.

Sincerely,

Leo I. Higdon, Jr.

Chairman of the Board of Directors

#### **HEALTHSOUTH CORPORATION**

Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders

11:00 a.m., central time, on Thursday, May 4, 2017 TIME

#### **HEALTHSOUTH CORPORATION**

Corporate Headquarters

3660 Grandview Parkway, Suite 200 **PLACE** Birmingham, Alabama 35243

Directions to the annual meeting are available by calling

Investor Relations at 1-205-968-6400

To elect ten directors to the board of directors to serve until our 2018 annual meeting of stockholders.

Ø The board of directors recommends a vote FOR each nominee.

To ratify the appointment by HealthSouth's Audit Committee of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as HealthSouth's independent registered public accounting firm.

Ø The board of directors recommends a vote FOR ratification.

## ITEMS OF **BUSINESS**

To approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the named executive officers as disclosed in HealthSouth's Definitive Proxy Statement for the 2017 annual meeting.

Ø The board of directors recommends a vote FOR the approval of the compensation of our named executive officers.

To vote, on an advisory basis, as to whether the above "say-on-pay" advisory vote should occur every one, two, or three years.

Ø The board of directors recommends a vote for the frequency option of ONE YEAR.

To transact such other business as may properly come before the annual meeting and any adjournment or postponement.

RECORD DATEYou can vote if you are a holder of record of HealthSouth common stock on March 8, 2017.

Your vote is important. Please vote in one of these ways:

Via internet: Go to http://www.proxyvote.com and follow the instructions. You will need to enter the control number printed on your proxy card or Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials;

## **PROXY** VOTING

By telephone: Call toll-free 1-800-690-6903 and follow the instructions. You will need to enter the control number printed on your proxy card or Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials;

In writing: Complete, sign, date and promptly return your proxy card in the enclosed envelope; or

Submit a ballot in person at the annual meeting of stockholders.

Important Notice for the Stockholders Meeting to be Held on May 4, 2017

HealthSouth's Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, form of proxy card, and 2016 Annual Report (including the 2016 Annual Report on Form 10-K) are available at http://www.proxyvote.com after entering the control number printed on your proxy card or Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials.

Birmingham, Alabama Patrick Darby March 24, 2017 Secretary

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# **HEALTHSOUTH CORPORATION** PROXY STATEMENT

#### INTRODUCTION

The annual meeting of stockholders of HealthSouth Corporation, a Delaware corporation ("HealthSouth," or also "we," "us," "our," or the "Company"), will be held on May 4, 2017, beginning at 11:00 a.m., central time, at our principal executive offices located at 3660 Grandview Parkway, Suite 200, Birmingham, Alabama 35243. We encourage all of our stockholders to vote at the annual meeting, and we hope the information contained in this document will help you decide how you wish to vote at the annual meeting.

## COMMONLY ASKED OUESTIONS

Why did I receive these proxy materials?

We are furnishing this proxy statement in connection with the solicitation by our board of directors of proxies to be voted at our 2017 annual meeting and at any adjournment or postponement. At our annual meeting, stockholders will act upon the following proposals:

- (1) to elect ten directors to the board of directors to serve until our 2018 annual meeting of stockholders;
- to ratify the appointment by the Audit Committee of our board of directors of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm;
- to approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the named executive officers, as disclosed in this proxy statement for the 2017 annual meeting;
- to vote, on an advisory basis, as to whether the above "say on pay" advisory vote should occur every one, two, or three years; and
- to transact such other business as may properly come before the 2017 annual meeting of stockholders and any adjournment or postponement.

These proxy solicitation materials are being sent to our stockholders on or about March 24, 2017.

What do I need to attend the meeting?

Attendance at the 2017 annual meeting of stockholders is limited to stockholders. Registration will begin at 10:30 a.m. central time and each stockholder will be asked to present a valid form of personal identification. Cameras, recording devices and other electronic devices will not be permitted at the meeting. Additional rules of conduct regarding the meeting will be provided at the meeting.

Who is entitled to vote at the meeting?

The board of directors has determined that those stockholders who are recorded in our record books as owning shares of our common stock as of the close of business on March 8, 2017, are entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the annual meeting of stockholders. As of February 13, 2017, there were 89,090,208 shares of our common stock issued and outstanding. Your shares may be (1) held directly in your name as the stockholder of record or (2) held for you as the beneficial owner through a stockbroker, bank or other nominee, or both. Our common stock is our only class of outstanding voting securities. Each share of common stock is entitled to one vote on each matter properly brought before the annual meeting.

What is the difference between holding shares as a stockholder of record and as a beneficial owner? Most of our stockholders hold their shares through a stockbroker, bank or other nominee rather than directly in their own name. As summarized below, there are some distinctions between shares held of record and those owned beneficially.

Stockholder of Record. If your shares are registered directly in your name with our transfer agent, Computershare Trust Company, N.A., you are considered, with respect to those shares, the stockholder of record, and these proxy materials are being sent directly to you by us. As the stockholder of record, you have the right to grant your voting proxy directly to us or to vote in person at the meeting. If you requested a paper copy of the proxy materials, we have enclosed a proxy card for you to use.

Beneficial Owner. If your shares are held in a stock brokerage account or by a bank or other nominee, you are considered the beneficial owner of shares held in street name, and these proxy materials are being forwarded to you by your broker, bank, or nominee which is considered, with respect to those shares, the stockholder of record. As the beneficial owner, you have the right to direct your broker on how to vote and are also invited to attend the meeting. However, because you are not the stockholder of record, you may not vote these shares in person at the meeting unless you obtain a signed proxy from the record holder giving you the right to vote the shares. Your broker, bank, or nominee has enclosed or provided a voting instruction card for you to use in directing the broker or nominee how to vote your shares. If you do not provide the stockholder of record with voting instructions, your shares will constitute broker non-votes. The effect of broker non-votes is more specifically described in "What vote is required to approve each item?" below.

How can I vote my shares in person at the meeting?

Shares held directly in your name as the stockholder of record may be voted in person at the annual meeting. Submitting your proxy by telephone, by internet or by mail will in no way limit your right to vote at the annual meeting if you later decide to attend in person.

Shares held beneficially in street name may be voted in person by you only if you obtain a signed proxy from the record holder giving you the right to vote the shares. Owners of shares held in street name that expect to attend and vote at the meeting should contact their broker, bank or nominee as soon as possible to obtain the necessary proxy. Even if you currently plan to attend the annual meeting, we recommend that you also submit your proxy as described below so your vote will be counted if you later decide not to attend the meeting.

How can I vote my shares without attending the meeting?

Whether you hold shares directly as the stockholder of record or beneficially in street name, you may direct your vote without attending the meeting. You may vote by granting a proxy or, for shares held in street name, by submitting voting instructions to your broker, bank, or nominee.

Please refer to the summary instructions below and those included on your proxy card or, for shares held in street name, the voting instruction card included by your broker, bank, or nominee. The internet and telephone voting procedures established for our stockholders of record are designed to authenticate your identity, to allow you to give your voting instructions, and to confirm those instructions have been properly recorded. Internet and telephone voting for stockholders of record will be available 24 hours a day, and will close at 11:59 p.m. eastern time on May 3, 2017. The availability of internet and telephone voting for beneficial owners will depend on the voting processes of your broker, bank or other holder of record. Therefore, we recommend that you follow the voting instructions you receive. BY INTERNET – If you have internet access, you may submit your proxy from any location in the world by following the "internet" instructions on the proxy card or Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials. Please have one of those documents in hand when accessing the website.

BY TELEPHONE – If you live in the United States, Puerto Rico, or Canada, you may submit your proxy by following the "telephone" instructions on your proxy card or Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials. Please have one of those documents in hand when you call.

BY MAIL – If you requested a paper copy of the proxy materials, you may vote by mail by marking, signing, and dating your proxy card or, for shares held in street name, the voting instruction card included by your broker, bank, or nominee and mailing it in the accompanying enclosed, pre-addressed envelope. If you provide specific voting instructions, your shares will be voted as you instruct. If you do not have the pre-addressed envelope available, please mail your completed proxy card to: Vote Processing, c/o Broadridge, 51 Mercedes Way, Edgewood, NY 11717. If you cast your vote in any of the ways set forth above, your shares will be voted in accordance with your voting instructions unless you validly revoke your proxy. We do not currently anticipate that any other matters will be

presented for action at the annual meeting. If any other matters are properly presented for action, the persons named as your proxies will vote your shares on these other matters in their discretion, under the discretionary authority you have granted to them in your proxy.

Shares cannot be voted by marking, writing on and/or returning a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials. Any Notices of Internet Availability that are returned will not be counted as votes.

Can I access the proxy statement and annual report on the internet?

Yes. You may have received a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials with instructions on how to access the materials on the internet. Regardless, this proxy statement, the form of proxy card and our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016 (the "2016 Form 10-K") are available at http://www.proxyvote.com. If you received a paper copy of the proxy materials, you have made a previous election to that effect. If you are a stockholder of record and would like to access future proxy materials electronically instead of receiving paper copies in the mail, there are several ways to do this. You can mark the appropriate box on your proxy card or follow the instructions if you vote by telephone or the internet. If you have internet access, we hope you make this choice. Receiving future annual reports and proxy statements via the internet will be simpler for you, will save the Company money and is friendlier to the environment.

A copy of our 2016 Form 10-K and the proxy materials are also available without charge from the "Investors" section of our website at http://investor.healthsouth.com. The 2016 Form 10-K and the proxy materials are also available in print to stockholders without charge and upon request, addressed to HealthSouth Corporation, 3660 Grandview Parkway, Suite 200, Birmingham, Alabama 35243, Attention: Corporate Secretary.

Rules adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission permit us to provide stockholders with proxy materials electronically instead of in paper form. We have decided to provide a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials with instructions on how to access the materials on the internet except in the event a stockholder has previously elected to receive printed material.

Can I change my vote after I submit my proxy?

Yes. Even after you have submitted your proxy, you may change your vote at any time prior to the close of voting at the annual meeting by:

filing with our corporate secretary at 3660 Grandview Parkway, Suite 200, Birmingham, Alabama 35243 a signed, original written notice of revocation dated later than the proxy you submitted;

submitting a duly executed proxy bearing a later date;

voting by telephone or internet on a later date; or

attending the annual meeting and voting in person.

In order to revoke your proxy, we must receive an original notice of revocation of your proxy at the address in the first bullet above sent by U.S. mail or overnight courier. You may not revoke your proxy by any other means. If you grant a proxy, you are not prevented from attending the annual meeting and voting in person. However, your attendance at the annual meeting will not by itself revoke a proxy you have previously granted; you must vote in person at the annual meeting to revoke your proxy.

If your shares are held by a broker, bank or other nominee, you may revoke your proxy by following the instructions provided by your broker, bank, or nominee.

All shares that have been properly voted and not revoked will be voted at the annual meeting.

What is "householding" and how does it affect me?

We are delivering the Notice of Internet Availability or other proxy materials addressed to all stockholders who share a single address unless they have notified us they wish to "opt out" of the program known as "householding." Under this procedure, stockholders of record who have the same address and last name receive only one copy of the Notice of Internet Availability or other proxy materials. Householding is intended to reduce our printing and postage costs and material waste. WE WILL DELIVER A SEPARATE COPY OF THE ANNUAL REPORT OR PROXY STATEMENT PROMPTLY UPON WRITTEN OR ORAL REQUEST. You may request a separate copy by contacting

our corporate secretary at 3660 Grandview Parkway, Suite 200, Birmingham, Alabama 35243, or by calling 1-205-967-7116.

If you are a stockholder of record and you choose not to have the aforementioned disclosure documents sent to a single household address as described above, you must "opt-out" by writing to: Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc., Householding Department, 51 Mercedes Way, Edgewood, New York 11717, or by calling 1-800-542-1061, and we will cease householding all such disclosure documents within 30 days. If we do not receive instructions to remove your account(s) from this service, your account(s) will continue to be householded until we notify you otherwise. If you own shares in nominee name (such as through a broker), information regarding householding of disclosure documents should have been forwarded to you by your broker.

Is there a list of stockholders entitled to vote at the meeting?

A complete list of stockholders entitled to vote at the meeting will be open for examination by our stockholders for any purpose germane to the meeting, during regular business hours at the meeting place, for ten days prior to the meeting.

What constitutes a quorum to transact business at the meeting?

Before any business may be transacted at the annual meeting, a quorum must be present. The presence at the annual meeting, in person or by proxy, of the holders of a majority of the shares of all of our capital stock outstanding and entitled to vote on the record date will constitute a quorum. At the close of business on February 13, 2017, 89,090,208 shares of our common stock were issued and outstanding. Proxies received but marked as abstentions and broker non-votes will be included in the calculation of the number of shares considered to be present at the annual meeting for purposes of a quorum.

What is the recommendation of the board of directors?

Our board of directors unanimously recommends a vote:

- "FOR" the election of each of our ten nominees to the board of directors;
- "FOR" the ratification of the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as HealthSouth's independent registered public accounting firm;
- "FOR" the approval of the compensation of our named executive officers, as disclosed in this proxy statement pursuant to the compensation disclosure rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission; and
- "FOR" the option of "ONE YEAR" as the frequency with which stockholders are provided the advisory vote on executive compensation.

With respect to any other matter that properly comes before the annual meeting, the proxy holders will vote in accordance with their judgment on such matter.

What vote is required to approve each item?

The vote requirements for the proposals are as follows:

Each nominee for director named in Proposal One will be elected if the votes for the nominee exceed 50% of the number of votes cast with respect to such nominee. Votes cast with respect to a nominee will include votes to withhold authority but will exclude abstentions and broker non-votes.

The ratification of the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm will be approved if the votes cast for the proposal exceed those cast against the proposal. Broker non-votes will not be counted as votes cast for or against the proposal.

Please note that "say-on-pay," Proposal Three, and "say-on-frequency," Proposal Four, are only advisory in nature and have no binding effect on the Company or our board of directors. In each case, our board of directors will consider the proposal approved if the votes cast in favor of the proposal exceed the votes cast against it. Broker non-votes will not be counted as votes cast for or against these proposals.

A "broker non-vote" occurs when a bank, broker or other holder of record holding shares for a beneficial owner does not vote on a particular proposal because that holder does not have discretionary voting power for that particular item and has not received instructions from the beneficial owner. If you are a beneficial owner, your bank, broker or

other holder of record is permitted to vote your shares on the ratification of the independent registered public accounting firm even if the record holder does not receive voting instructions from you. Absent instructions from you, the record holder may not vote on any "nondiscretionary" matter including a director election, an equity compensation plan, a matter relating to executive compensation, certain corporate governance changes, or any stockholder proposal. In that case, without your voting instructions, a broker non-vote will occur. An "abstention" will occur at the annual meeting if your shares are deemed to be present at the annual meeting, either because you attend the annual meeting or because you have properly completed and returned a proxy, but you do not vote on any proposal or other matter which is required to be voted on by our stockholders at the annual meeting. You should consult your broker if you have questions about this.

The affirmative vote of at least a majority of our issued and outstanding shares present, in person or by proxy, and entitled to vote at the annual meeting will be required to approve any stockholder proposal validly presented at a meeting of stockholders. Under applicable Delaware law, in determining whether any stockholder proposal has received the requisite number of affirmative votes, abstentions will have the same effect as a vote against any stockholder proposal. Broker non-votes will be ignored. There are no dissenters' rights of appraisal in connection with any stockholder vote to be taken at the annual meeting.

What does it mean if I receive more than one proxy or voting instruction card?

It means your shares of common stock are registered differently or are in more than one account. Please provide voting instructions for all proxy and voting instruction cards you receive.

Where can I find the voting results of the meeting?

We will announce preliminary voting results at the meeting. We will publish the voting results in a Current Report on Form 8-K to be filed with the SEC no later than four business days following the end of the annual meeting. If preliminary results are reported initially, we will update the filing when final, certified results are available. Who will count the votes?

A representative of Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc., acting as the inspector of election, will tabulate and certify the votes.

Who will pay for the cost of this proxy solicitation?

We are making this solicitation and will pay the entire cost of preparing, assembling, printing, mailing, and distributing these proxy materials. If you choose to access the proxy materials or vote over the internet, however, you are responsible for internet access charges you may incur. In addition to the mailing of these proxy materials, the solicitation of proxies or votes may be made in person, by telephone, or by electronic communication by our directors, officers and employees, who will not receive any additional compensation for such solicitation activities. We will request banks, brokers, nominees, custodians, and other fiduciaries who hold shares of our stock in street name, to forward these proxy solicitation materials to the beneficial owners of those shares and we will reimburse the reasonable out-of-pocket expenses they incur in doing so.

Who should I contact if I have questions?

If you hold our common stock through a brokerage account and you have any questions or need assistance in voting your shares, you should contact the broker or bank where you hold the account. If you are a registered holder of our common stock and you have any questions or need assistance in voting your shares, please call our Investor Relations department at 1-205-968-6400. As an additional resource, the SEC website has a variety of information about the proxy voting process at www.sec.gov/spotlight/proxymatters.shtml.

NO PERSON IS AUTHORIZED TO GIVE ANY INFORMATION OR TO MAKE ANY REPRESENTATION OTHER THAN THOSE CONTAINED IN THIS PROXY STATEMENT, AND, IF GIVEN OR MADE, SUCH INFORMATION MUST NOT BE RELIED UPON AS HAVING BEEN AUTHORIZED. THE DELIVERY OF THIS PROXY STATEMENT WILL, UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES, CREATE ANY IMPLICATION THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN THE AFFAIRS OF THE COMPANY SINCE THE DATE OF THIS PROXY STATEMENT.

#### ITEMS OF BUSINESS REQUIRING YOUR VOTE

Proposal 1 – Election of Directors

**Director Nominees** 

Our board of directors currently consists of ten members and, based on the recommendation of the Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee, proposes that each of the ten nominees listed below be elected at the annual meeting as members of our board of directors, to serve until our 2018 annual meeting of stockholders. Each director nominee named in Proposal One will be elected if the votes for that nominee exceed 50% of the number of votes cast with respect to that nominee. Votes cast with respect to a nominee will include votes to withhold authority but will exclude abstentions and broker non-votes. If a nominee becomes unable or unwilling to accept the nomination or election, the persons designated as proxies will be entitled to vote for any other person designated as a substitute nominee by our board of directors. We have no reason to believe that any of the following nominees will be unable to serve. Below we have provided information relating to each of the director nominees proposed for election by our board of directors, including a brief description of why he or she was nominated.

Name of		·	Data Dagama	
Name of	Age	Current Roles	Date Became	
Nominee	1180	Carrent Holes	Director	
John W.	<i>5</i> 1	Mankar of Audit Committee and Finance Committee	10/2/2007	
Chidsey *	54	Member of Audit Committee and Finance Committee	10/2/2007	
Donald L.	"	M	(12012005	
Correll *	66	Member of Audit Committee and Finance Committee	6/29/2005	
Yvonne M. Curl	<b>60</b>	Member of Compensation Committee (Chair) and Compliance/Quality of Care		
*	62	Committee	11/18/2004	
Charles M.	57	Member of Finance Committee (Chair) and Nominating/Corporate	0/0/2004	
Elson * 57		Governance Committee	9/9/2004	
Joan E. Herman	(2	Member of Compensation Committee and Compliance/Quality of Care	1/25/2012	
* 63		Committee (Chair)	1/25/2013	
Leo I. Higdon,	70	Chairman of the Board of Directors; Member of Compensation Committee and	9/17/2004	
Jr. *	70	Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee	8/17/2004	
Leslye G. Katz *	62	Member of Audit Committee (Chair) and Finance Committee	1/25/2013	
John E. Maupin,	70	Member of Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee and	8/17/2004	
Jr. *		Compliance/Quality of Care Committee	8/1//2004	
L. Edward	72	Member of Compensation Committee and Nominating/Corporate Governance	6/29/2005	
Shaw, Jr. *		Committee (Chair)		
Mark J. Tarr	55	President and Chief Executive Officer	12/29/2016	
*Danotas independent director				

<sup>\*</sup>Denotes independent director.

There are no arrangements or understandings known to us between any of the nominees listed above and any other person pursuant to which that person was or is to be selected as a director or nominee, other than any arrangements or understandings with persons acting solely as directors or officers of HealthSouth.

John W. Chidsey

Mr. Chidsey currently serves as an executive board member of TopTech Holdings, LLC. TopTech, doing business as HotSchedules.com, is a provider of comprehensive cloud-based technology with expertise in hiring, training, scheduling, back office and standardization. From the time of the October 2010 sale of Burger King Holdings, Inc. to 3G Capital until April 18, 2011, Mr. Chidsey served as co-chairman of the board of directors of Burger King Holdings, Inc. Prior to the sale, he served as chief executive officer and a member of its board from April 2006, including as chairman of the board from July 2008. From September 2005 until April 2006, he served as president and chief financial officer. He served as president, North America, from June 2004 to September 2005, and as executive vice president, chief administrative and financial officer from March 2004 until June 2004. Prior to joining Burger King, Mr. Chidsey served as chairman and chief executive officer for two corporate divisions of Cendant Corporation: the Vehicle Services Division that included Avis Rent A Car, Budget Rent A Car Systems, PHH and Wright Express and the Financial Services Division that included Jackson Hewitt and various membership and insurance companies.

Prior to joining Cendant, Mr. Chidsey served as the director of finance of Pepsi-Cola Eastern Europe and the chief financial officer of

PepsiCo World Trading Co., Inc. Mr. Chidsey currently serves on the board of directors of Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings Ltd. and on the governing board of the privately held company, Instawares Holdings, LLC. He also serves on the Board of Trustees for Davidson College in Davidson, North Carolina.

Mr. Chidsey has extensive experience in matters of finance, corporate strategy and senior leadership relevant to large public companies. Mr. Chidsey is a certified public accountant and a member of the Georgia Bar Association. He qualifies as an "audit committee financial expert" within the meaning of SEC regulations.

#### Donald L. Correll

Mr. Correll is chief executive officer and co-founder of KWP Capital, LLC, a firm that identifies, invests in, advises, and manages water and wastewater infrastructure assets and operations. Mr. Correll served as the president and chief executive officer and a director of American Water Works Company, Inc., the largest and most geographically diversified provider of water services in North America, from April 2006 to August 2010. Between August 2003 and April 2006, Mr. Correll served as president and chief executive officer of Pennichuck Corporation, a publicly traded holding company which, through its subsidiaries, provides public water supply services, certain water related services, and certain real estate activities, including property development and management. From 2001 to 2003, Mr. Correll served as an independent advisor to water service and investment firms on issues relating to marketing, acquisitions, and investments in the water services sector. From 1991 to 2001, Mr. Correll served as chairman, president and chief executive officer of United Water Resources, Inc., a water and wastewater utility company. He currently serves as a director, member of the audit committee, and chairman of the leadership development and compensation committee of New Jersey Resources Corporation.

Mr. Correll has extensive experience in matters of accounting, finance, corporate strategy and senior leadership relevant to large public companies. He is a certified public accountant and has experience with a major public accounting firm. Mr. Correll qualifies as an "audit committee financial expert" within the meaning of SEC regulations. Yvonne M. Curl

Ms. Curl is a former vice president and chief marketing officer of Avaya, Inc., a global provider of next-generation business collaboration and communications solutions, which position she held from October 2000 through April 2004. Before joining Avaya, Ms. Curl was employed by Xerox Corporation beginning in 1976, where she held a number of middle and senior management positions in sales, marketing and field operations, culminating with her appointment to corporate vice president. Ms. Curl currently serves as a director of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. In the past five years, she has also served as director of Charming Shoppes, Inc., a specialty apparel retailer, and Welch Allyn, Inc. (private).

Ms. Curl has proven senior executive experience with broad operational experience in sales, marketing, and general management through her previous roles with large public companies as described above. Having served on several compensation committees on the board of directors of public companies, she has experience in the development and oversight of compensation programs and policies.

## Charles M. Elson

Mr. Elson holds the Edgar S. Woolard, Jr. Chair in Corporate Governance and has served as the director of the John L. Weinberg Center for Corporate Governance at the University of Delaware since 2000. Mr. Elson has served on the National Association of Corporate Directors' Commissions on Director Compensation, Executive Compensation and the Role of the Compensation Committee, Director Professionalism, CEO Succession, Audit Committees, Governance Committee, Strategic Planning, Director Evaluation, Risk Governance, Role of Lead Director, Strategy Development, Board Diversity, Board and Long-term Value Creation, and Building the Strategic Asset Board. He was a member of the National Association of Corporate Directors' Best Practices Council on Coping with Fraud and Other Illegal Activity. He served on that organization's Advisory Council. He currently serves as a director of Bob Evans Farms, Inc. In addition, Mr. Elson serves as vice chairman of the American Bar Association's Committee on Corporate Governance and as a member of a standing advisory committee for the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board. Mr. Elson has been Of Counsel/consultant to the law firm of Holland & Knight LLP from 1995 to the present. Mr. Elson has extensive knowledge of and experience in matters of corporate governance through his leadership roles with professional organizations dedicated to the topic as described above. Through his other professional roles, Mr. Elson is in a unique position to monitor and counsel on developments in corporate governance.

#### Joan E. Herman

Ms. Herman has served as the president and chief executive officer of Herman & Associates, LLC, a healthcare and management consulting firm, since 2008. Herman & Associates provides services to healthcare providers, pharmacy benefit managers, managed care organizations, and private equity firms. From 1998 to 2008, she served in a number of senior management positions, including president and chief executive officer for two corporate divisions, at Anthem, Inc. (f/k/a WellPoint, Inc.), a leading managed healthcare company that offers network-based managed care plans. Prior to joining Anthem, she served in a number of senior positions at Phoenix Life Insurance Company for 16 years, lastly as senior vice president of strategic development. Ms. Herman currently serves on the board of directors for Convergys Corporation, a provider of customer management and business support system solutions for which she serves on the audit and nominating and governance committees. In the past five years, she has served as a director of MRV Communications, Inc. and Qualicorp SA, a publicly traded company in Brazil. In addition, she currently serves on the boards of directors of DentalPlans.com and AARP Services Inc., both privately held companies. Ms. Herman has extensive experience leading large complex businesses, including in the healthcare and insurance industries. With Anthem, she gained experience dealing with government reimbursement issues as well as state and federal healthcare and insurance regulators. Her senior involvement and board service with various community and charity organizations, such as the American Red Cross – Los Angeles region and the Venice Family Clinic Foundation, evidences her leadership skills and character.

## Leo I. Higdon, Jr.

Mr. Higdon was unanimously elected to serve as chairman of our board of directors on May 1, 2014. He served as president of Connecticut College from July 1, 2006 to December 31, 2013. He served as the president of the College of Charleston from October 2001 to June 2006. Between 1997 and 2001, Mr. Higdon served as president of Babson College in Wellesley, Massachusetts. He also served as dean of the Darden Graduate School of Business Administration at the University of Virginia. His financial experience includes a 20-year tenure at Salomon Brothers, where he became vice chairman and member of the executive committee, managing the Global Investment Banking Division. Mr. Higdon also serves as the lead independent director of Eaton Vance Corp., a provider of investment management and advisory services, and as a director of Citizens Financial Group, Inc.

As a result of his 20 years of experience in the financial services industry combined with his strategic management skills gained through various senior executive positions, including in academia, and service on numerous boards of directors, Mr. Higdon has extensive experience with strategic and financial planning and the operations of large public companies.

#### Leslye G. Katz

regulations.

From January 2007 to December 2010, Ms. Katz served as senior vice president and chief financial officer of IMS Health, Inc., a provider of information, services, and technology for clients in the pharmaceutical and healthcare industries. Prior to that, she served as vice president and controller for five years. From July 1998 to July 2001, Ms. Katz served as senior vice president and chief financial officer of American Lawyer Media, Inc., a privately held legal media and publishing company. Prior to joining American Lawyer Media, Ms. Katz held a number of financial management positions with The Dun & Bradstreet Corporation, followed by two years as vice president and treasurer of Cognizant Corporation, a spin-off from D&B. Ms. Katz currently serves as a director and member of the audit and compensation committees of ICF International, Inc., a provider of management, technology, and policy consulting and implementation services to government and commercial clients, and as co-chair of the board of directors of My Sisters' Place, a not-for-profit provider of shelter, advocacy, and support services to victims of domestic violence.

Ms. Katz has extensive experience in financial management at companies serving the healthcare and pharmaceutical industries, as well as expertise in mergers and acquisitions, treasury, financial planning and analysis, SEC reporting, investor relations, real estate, and procurement. She has further demonstrated her leadership and character in her board service with a community charity. She qualifies as an "audit committee financial expert" within the meaning of SEC

John E. Maupin, Jr.

In July 2014, Dr. Maupin retired as president and chief executive officer of the Morehouse School of Medicine located in Atlanta, Georgia, a position he held from July 2006. Prior to joining Morehouse, Dr. Maupin held several other senior administrative positions including president and chief executive officer of Meharry Medical College from 1994 to 2006, executive vice president and chief operating officer of the Morehouse School of Medicine from 1989 to 1994, chief executive officer of Southside Healthcare, Inc. from 1987 to 1989, and Deputy Commissioner of Health of the Baltimore City Health Department from 1984 to 1987. Dr. Maupin currently serves as a director of LifePoint Hospitals, Inc., VALIC Companies I & II, a group retirement investment fund complex, and Regions Financial Corp. Dr. Maupin also serves on the boards of the America's Promise Alliance and the Regions Community Development Corporation (chairman).

Dr. Maupin has extensive management and administrative experience with healthcare organizations as described above. He has diverse executive leadership experience in public health, ambulatory care, government relations, and academic medicine. He also has a distinguished record as a health policy expert and advisor, having served on numerous national advisory boards and panels. Additionally, he has demonstrated his leadership and character through involvement, including board roles, in community, healthcare, and scientific advisory organizations as well as through his service as an officer in the U.S. Army Reserve for more than 28 years.

L. Edward Shaw, Jr.

Mr. Shaw served as general counsel of Aetna, Inc. from 1999 to 2003 and The Chase Manhattan Bank from 1983 to 1996, where, in addition to his legal role, his responsibilities included a wide range of strategic planning, risk management, compliance and public policy issues. From 1996 to 1999, he served as chief corporate officer of the Americas for National Westminster Bank PLC. In 2004, Mr. Shaw was appointed independent counsel to the board of directors of the New York Stock Exchange dealing with regulatory matters. From March 2006 to July 2010, he served on a part-time basis as a senior managing director of Richard C. Breeden & Co., and affiliated companies engaged in investment management, strategic consulting, and governance matters. Mr. Shaw also currently serves as a director of MSA Safety Inc. and as a director and former chairman of Covenant House, the nation's largest privately funded provider of crisis care to children.

Mr. Shaw has a wide ranging legal and business background, including senior leadership roles, in the context of large public companies as described above with particular experience in corporate governance, risk management and compliance matters. He also has significant experience in the healthcare industry as a result of his position with Aetna. Mark J. Tarr

Mr. Tarr became our president and chief executive officer on December 29, 2016. Previously, he served as executive vice president of our operations since October 1, 2007, to which the chief operating officer designation was added on February 24, 2011. Mr. Tarr joined us in 1993 and has held various management positions with us, including serving as president of our inpatient division from 2004 to 2007, as senior vice president with responsibility for all inpatient operations in Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Kansas from 1997 to 2004, as director of operations of our 80-bed rehabilitation hospital in Nashville, Tennessee from 1994 to 1997, and as chief executive officer/administrator of our 70-bed rehabilitation hospital in Vero Beach, Florida from 1992 to 1994.

Mr. Tarr, as our president and chief executive officer, directs the strategic, financial and operational management of the Company and, in this capacity, provides unique insights into its detailed operations. He also has the benefit of more than 25 years of experience in the operation and management of inpatient rehabilitation hospitals. Board Recommendation

The board of directors unanimously recommends that you vote "FOR" the election of all ten director nominees.

Proposal 2 – Ratification of Appointment of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm Appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

In accordance with its charter, the Audit Committee selected the firm of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP to be our independent registered public accounting firm for the 2017 audit period, and with the endorsement of the board of directors, recommends to our stockholders that they ratify that appointment. The Audit Committee will reconsider the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP for the next audit period if such appointment is not ratified. Representatives of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP are expected to attend the annual meeting and will have the opportunity to make a statement if they desire, and are expected to be available to respond to appropriate questions. The Audit Committee recognizes the importance of maintaining the independence of our independent registered public accounting firm, both in fact and appearance. Consistent with its charter, the Audit Committee has evaluated PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP's qualifications, performance, and independence, including that of the lead audit partner. The Audit Committee reviews and approves, in advance, the audit scope, the types of non-audit services, if any, and the estimated fees for each category for the coming year. For each category of proposed service, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP is required to confirm that the provision of such services does not impair their independence. Before selecting PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, the Audit Committee carefully considered that firm's qualifications as an independent registered public accounting firm for the Company. This included a review of its performance in prior years, as well as its reputation for integrity and competence in the fields of accounting and auditing. The Audit Committee has expressed its satisfaction with PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP in all of these respects. The Audit Committee's review included inquiry concerning any litigation involving PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP and any proceedings by the SEC against the firm. In this respect, the Audit Committee has concluded that the ability of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP to perform services for HealthSouth is in no way adversely affected by any such investigation or litigation.

Pre-Approval of Principal Accountant Services

The Audit Committee of our board of directors is responsible for the appointment, oversight, and evaluation of our independent registered public accounting firm. In accordance with our Audit Committee's charter, our Audit Committee must approve, in advance of the service, all audit and permissible non-audit services provided by our independent registered public accounting firm. Our independent registered public accounting firm may not be retained to perform the non-audit services specified in Section 10A(g) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. The Audit Committee has concluded that provision of the non-audit services described in that section is not compatible with maintaining the independence of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.

The Audit Committee has established a policy regarding pre-approval of audit and permissible non-audit services provided by our independent registered public accounting firm, as well as all engagement fees and terms for our independent registered public accounting firm. Under the policy, the Audit Committee must approve the services to be rendered and fees to be charged by our independent registered public accounting firm. Typically, the Audit Committee approves services up to a specific amount of fees. The Audit Committee must then approve, in advance, any services or fees exceeding those pre-approved levels, except for de minimis services with billings not greater than 5% of fees paid in that year, which are subject to subsequent approval by the Audit Committee and other requirements. The Audit Committee may delegate general pre-approval authority to a subcommittee of which the chairman of the Audit Committee is a member, provided that any delegated approval is limited to services with fees of no more than 5% of previously approved amounts.

#### Principal Accountant Fees and Services

With respect to the audits for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, the Audit Committee approved the audit services to be performed by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, as well as certain categories and types of audit-related and permitted non-audit services. In 2016 and 2015, all audit, audit-related, and other fees were approved in accordance with SEC pre-approval rules. The following table shows the aggregate fees paid or accrued for professional services rendered by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, with respect to various services provided to us and our subsidiaries.

	For the Year Ended	
	December 31,	
	2016	2015
	(In Millions)	
Audit fees <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 3.1	\$ 4.0
Audit-related fees <sup>(2)</sup>	_	0.2
Total audit and audit-related fees	3.1	4.2
Tax fees <sup>(3)</sup>	0.1	0.1
All other fees <sup>(4)</sup>		0.1
Total fees	\$ 3.2	\$ 4.4

Audit Fees – Represents aggregate fees paid or accrued for professional services rendered for the audit of our consolidated financial statements and internal control over financial reporting for each year presented; fees for

- professional services rendered for the review of financial statements included in our Form 10-Qs, and fees for professional services normally provided by our independent registered public accounting firm in connection with statutory and regulatory engagements required by various partnership agreements or state and local laws in the jurisdictions in which we operate or manage hospitals.
  - Audit-Related Fees –Represents aggregate fees paid or accrued for assurance and related services that are
- (2) reasonably related to the performance of audit services and traditionally are performed by our independent auditor, such as work in connection with registered offerings of securities.
- Tax Fees Represents fees for all professional services, including tax compliance, advice and planning, provided by (3) our independent auditor's tax professionals but not including any services related to the audit of our financial statements.
  - All Other Fees Represents fees for all other products and services provided by our independent registered public
- (4) accounting firm that do not fall within the previous categories. More specifically, for 2015, these fees represent amounts paid or due to our independent auditor for due diligence work associated with acquisitions and miscellaneous services and products.

#### **Board Recommendation**

The board of directors and the Audit Committee unanimously recommend that you vote "FOR" ratifying the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as HealthSouth's independent registered public accounting firm for the 2017 audit period.

#### Proposal 3 – Advisory Vote on Executive Compensation

We seek your advisory vote on our executive compensation programs. The Company asks that you support the compensation of our named executive officers as disclosed under the heading "Executive Compensation," including the "Executive Summary" section, beginning on page 26 and the accompanying tables and related narrative disclosure. This proposal, commonly referred to as a "say-on-pay" proposal, gives stockholders the opportunity to express their views on the named executive officers' compensation. This vote is not intended to address any specific item of compensation, but rather the overall compensation of the named executive officers and the philosophy, policies and practices described in this proxy statement.

As described under the heading "Compensation Discussion and Analysis" on page 26, the Company provides annual and long-term compensation programs as well as the other benefit plans, to attract, motivate, and retain the named executive officers, each of whom is critical to the Company's success, and to create a remuneration and incentive program that aligns the interests of the named executive officers with those of stockholders. The board of directors believes the program strikes the appropriate balance between utilizing responsible, measured pay practices and effectively incentivizing the named executive officers to dedicate themselves fully to value creation for our stockholders. At the 2016 annual meeting, 98.1% of stockholders voting on the say-on-pay proposal approved our executive compensation on an advisory basis.

You are encouraged to read the information detailed under the heading "Executive Compensation" beginning on page 26 for additional details about the Company's executive compensation programs.

The board of directors strongly endorses the Company's executive compensation program and recommends that the stockholders vote in favor of the following resolution:

"RESOLVED, that the Company's stockholders approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the named executive officers, as disclosed in the HealthSouth Corporation Definitive Proxy Statement for the 2017 annual meeting of stockholders pursuant to the compensation disclosure rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission, including the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the 2016 Summary Compensation Table and the other related tables and disclosure."

This say-on-pay vote is advisory, and therefore not binding on the Company, the compensation committee or the board of directors. The board of directors and its compensation committee value the opinions of our stockholders and to the extent there is any significant vote against the named executive officer compensation as disclosed in this proxy statement, we will consider stockholders' concerns and the compensation committee will evaluate whether any actions are necessary to address those concerns. The board of directors has elected to hold the say-on-pay advisory vote annually until further notice. The next advisory vote is expected to be in connection with the 2018 annual meeting of stockholders.

#### **Board Recommendation**

The board of directors unanimously recommends a vote "FOR" the approval of the compensation of our named executive officers, as disclosed in this proxy statement pursuant to the compensation disclosure rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Proposal 4 – Advisory Vote on the Frequency of the "Say-on-Pay" Vote

After careful consideration, our board of directors previously decided to hold annual, non-binding, advisory votes on executive compensation. Notwithstanding, that decision and the support of the majority of our stockholders in the 2011 vote on the say-on-pay frequency proposal, the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") require us to again submit this Proposal to a vote. Accordingly, we are asking whether the say-on-pay advisory vote should occur every three years, every two years or every year. We understand that stockholders may have different views as to what is the best approach for the Company, and we look forward to hearing from stockholders on this Proposal.

You may cast your vote on your preferred voting frequency by choosing the option of one year, two years, three years or abstain from voting when you vote in response to the resolution set forth below.

"RESOLVED, that the option of once every one year, two years, or three years that receives the highest number of votes cast for this resolution will be determined to be the preferred frequency with which the Company is to hold a stockholder advisory vote to approve the compensation of the named executive officers, as disclosed pursuant to the SEC's compensation disclosure rules (which disclosure shall include the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the Summary Compensation Table, and the other related tables and disclosure)."

The option of one year, two years or three years that receives the highest number of votes cast by stockholders will be deemed the frequency for the advisory vote on executive compensation that has been approved by stockholders. While the board of directors will take into account the outcome of this non-binding, advisory vote when making future decisions regarding the frequency of the say-on-pay advisory vote, the board of directors may decide that it is in the best interests of stockholders and the Company to hold such an advisory vote more or less frequently than the option selected by a plurality of stockholders at the annual meeting. As a reminder, you are NOT voting for or against the board's recommendation itself. Instead, your vote is a selection of one of the three frequency options if you do not abstain.

#### **Board Recommendation**

The board of directors unanimously recommends a vote for the option of "ONE YEAR" as the frequency with which stockholders are provided an advisory vote on executive compensation, as disclosed pursuant to the compensation disclosure rules of the SEC.

#### CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND BOARD STRUCTURE

Corporate Governance

Corporate Governance Guidelines

Our board of directors has adopted Corporate Governance Guidelines, which provide, among other things, that each member of the board will:

dedicate sufficient time, energy, and attention to ensure the diligent performance of his or her duties;

comply with the duties and responsibilities set forth in the Corporate Governance Guidelines and in our Bylaws; comply with all duties of care, loyalty, and confidentiality applicable to directors of publicly traded Delaware corporations; and

adhere to our Standards of Business Conduct, including the policies on conflicts of interest.

Our Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee oversees and periodically reviews the Guidelines, and recommends any proposed changes to the board for approval.

Code of Ethics

We have adopted Standards of Business Conduct, our "code of ethics," that applies to all employees, directors and officers, including our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, and principal accounting officer or controller, or persons performing similar functions. The purpose of the code of ethics is to promote:

honest and ethical conduct, including the ethical handling of actual or apparent conflicts of interest between personal and professional relationships;

full, fair, accurate, timely and understandable disclosure in periodic reports required to be filed by us; compliance with all applicable rules and regulations that apply to us and our officers and directors; prompt internal reporting of violations of the code to an appropriate person or persons identified in the code; and accountability for adherence to the code.

We will disclose any future amendments to, or waivers from, certain provisions of these ethical policies and standards for executive officers and directors on our website promptly following the date of the amendments or waivers. Upon written request to our corporate secretary, we will also provide a copy of the code of ethics free of charge.

Corporate Website

We maintain a "Corporate Governance" section on our website where you can find copies of our principal governance documents, including our code of ethics. Our "Corporate Governance" section is located at http://investor.healthsouth.com and includes the following documents, among others:

Charter of the Company

Bylaws of the Company

Charter of the Audit Committee

Charter of the Compensation Committee

Charter of the Compliance/Quality of Care

Committee

Charter of the Finance Committee

Charter of the Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee

Standards of Business Conduct

Corporate Governance Guidelines

Board Policy on Majority Voting for Directors

A director nominee will be elected if the votes "for" that person exceed 50% of the votes cast, including "withhold authority" votes but excluding "abstention" votes and broker non-votes, in the election with respect to that person. In addition, we have adopted a policy whereby any incumbent director nominee who receives a greater number of "withhold authority" votes than votes "for" his or her election will tender his or her resignation for consideration by the Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee unless it is a contended election in which case the incumbent director nominee must receive the votes required by our Bylaws. The Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee will recommend to the board of directors whether to accept or reject the offer of resignation.

Role of the Board in Oversight of the Company's Risks

We maintain a comprehensive enterprise risk management program designed to identify potential events and conditions that may affect the Company and to manage risks to avoid materially adverse effects on the Company. Our management, including an executive risk committee, is responsible for the design and implementation of the enterprise risk management program. The Audit Committee of the board of directors, pursuant to its charter, is responsible for reviewing and evaluating our policies and procedures relating to risk assessment and management. The full board of directors monitors the enterprise risk management program by way of regular reports from our senior executives on management's risk assessments and risk status as well as our risk response and mitigation activities. The full board also monitors the Company's strategic risks by way of regular reports. Individual committees monitor, by way of regular reports, the risks that relate to the responsibilities of that committee.

The Compensation Committee reviews and considers our compensation policies and programs in light of the board of directors' risk assessment and management responsibilities on an annual basis. In 2016, Mercer (US) Inc. in consultation with our human resources department prepared and presented to the Compensation Committee a risk assessment report that addressed the incentive compensation structure, programs, and processes at the corporate and hospital levels of the Company. The assessment included, among other things, a review of pay mix (fixed v. variable, cash v. equity and short v. long-term), performance metrics, target setting, performance measurement practices, pay determination, mitigation practices such as the Compensation Recoupment Policy, and overall governance and administration of pay programs. After reviewing this report and making inquiries of management, the Compensation Committee determined we have no compensation policies and programs that give rise to risks reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on us.

Annual Evaluation of the Performance of the Board

On an annual basis, members of the board complete an evaluation of the performance of the board as well as each committee on which the respective members serve. The board may, and does on occasion, obtain the advice and assistance of outside advisors in performing the evaluation. Results are reviewed by the Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee which then shares those results and any follow up recommendations with all members of the board.

Communications to Directors

Stockholders and other parties interested in communicating directly to the board of directors, any committee, or any non-employee director may do so by writing to the address listed below:

HEALTHSOUTH CORPORATION

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS** 

3660 GRANDVIEW PARKWAY, SUITE 200

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35243

ATTENTION: [Addressee\*]

\* Including the name of the specific addressee(s) will allow us to direct the communication to the intended recipient.

All communications will be opened by the office of our general counsel for the sole purpose of determining whether the contents represent a message to our directors. Any contents that are not in the nature of advertising, promotions of a product or service, or patently offensive material will be forwarded promptly to the addressee. In the case of communications to the board of directors or any group or committee of directors, sufficient copies of the contents will be made for all of the addressees.

**Board Structure and Director Nominations** 

**Board Structure and Meetings** 

Our business, property, and affairs are managed under the direction of our board of directors. Our Corporate Governance Guidelines provide for a non-executive chairman of the board to set the agenda for, and preside over, board meetings, coordinate the work of the committees of our board of directors and perform other duties delegated to the chairman by our board of directors. The non-executive chairman also presides over independent sessions generally held at each board meeting. The board of directors adopted this structure to promote decision-making and governance independent of that of our management and to better perform the board's monitoring and evaluation functions. On May 1, 2014, the board unanimously elected Mr. Higdon as chairman. Members of the board are kept informed of our business through discussions with our chief executive officer and other officers, by reviewing materials provided to them, by visiting our offices and hospitals, and by participating in meetings of the board and its committees.

The board of directors met six times during 2016. Each member of the board attended 75% or more of the meetings of the board and the committees on which he or she served during the year. In addition, it is our policy that directors are expected to attend the annual meeting of stockholders. The members of the board of directors generally hold a meeting the same day and location as the annual meeting of stockholders. All members of our board attended the annual meeting in 2016.

#### Criteria for Board Members

In evaluating the suitability of individual candidates and nominees, the Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee and our board of directors consider relevant factors, including, but not limited to: a general understanding of marketing, finance, information technology and cyber security, corporate strategy and other elements relevant to the operation of a large publicly-traded company in today's business environment, senior leadership experience, an understanding of our business, educational and professional background, and character. The Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee also considers the following attributes or qualities in evaluating the suitability of candidates and nominees to the board:

Integrity: Candidates should demonstrate high ethical standards and integrity in their personal and professional dealings.

Accountability: Candidates should be willing to be accountable for their decisions as directors.

Judgment: Candidates should possess the ability to provide wise and thoughtful counsel on a broad range of issues. Responsibility: Candidates should interact with each other in a manner which encourages responsible, open, challenging and inspired discussion. Directors must be able to comply with all duties of care, loyalty, and confidentiality applicable to directors of publicly traded Delaware corporations.

High Performance Standards: Candidates should have a history of achievements which reflects high standards for themselves and others.

Commitment and Enthusiasm: Candidates should be committed to, and enthusiastic about, their performance for the Company as directors, both in absolute terms and relative to their peers. Directors should be free from conflicts of interest and be able to devote sufficient time to satisfy their board responsibilities.

Financial Literacy: Candidates should be able to read and understand fundamental financial statements and understand the use of financial ratios and information in evaluating the financial performance of the Company.

Courage: Candidates should possess the courage to express views openly, even in the face of opposition.

Although there is no formal policy on diversity of nominees, both the board of directors and the Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee believe that diversity of skills, perspectives and experiences as represented on the board as a whole, in addition to the primary factors, attributes or qualities discussed above, promotes improved monitoring and evaluation of management on behalf of the stockholders and produces more creative thinking and solutions. The Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee considers the distinctive skills, perspectives and experiences that candidates diverse in gender, ethnic background, geographic origin and professional experience offer in the broader context of the primary evaluation described above.

**Director Nomination Process** 

Internal Process for Identifying Candidates

The Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee has two primary methods for identifying director nominees. First, on a periodic basis, the committee solicits ideas for possible candidates from members of the board of directors, senior level executives, and individuals personally known to the members of the board. Second, the committee may from time to time use its authority under its charter to retain, at the Company's expense, one or more search firms to identify candidates (and to approve such firms' fees and other retention terms).

Proposals for Director Nominees by Stockholders

The Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee will consider written proposals from stockholders for director nominees. In considering candidates submitted by stockholders, the Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee will take into consideration the needs of the board of directors and the qualifications of the candidate. In accordance with our Bylaws, any such nominations must be received by the Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee, c/o the corporate secretary, not less than 90 days nor more than 120 days prior to the anniversary date of the immediately preceding annual meeting of stockholders; provided, however, that in the event the annual meeting is called for a date that is not within 30 days before or after such anniversary date, a nomination, in order to be timely, must be received not later than the close of business on the tenth day following the day on which such notice of the date of the annual meeting was mailed or such public disclosure of the date of the annual meeting was made, whichever first occurs. The Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee received no nominee recommendations from stockholders for the 2017 annual meeting. Stockholder nominations for our 2018 annual meeting of stockholders must be received at our principal executive offices on or after January 5, 2018 and not later than February 4, 2018. All stockholder nominations must be sent by mail or courier service and addressed to HealthSouth Corporation, 3660 Grandview Parkway, Suite 200, Birmingham, Alabama 35243, Attention: Corporate Secretary. Electronic mail and facsimile delivery are not monitored routinely for stockholder submissions, so timely delivery cannot be insured. Stockholder nominations must include the information set forth in Section 3.4 of our Bylaws and be accompanied by a written consent of each proposed nominee to being named as a nominee and to serving as a director if elected. A stockholder providing notice of a nomination must update and supplement the notice so that the information in the notice is true and correct as of the record date(s) for determining the stockholders entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the annual meeting. Any stockholder that intends to submit a nomination for the board of directors should read the entirety of the requirements in Section 3.4 of our Bylaws which can be found in the "Corporate Governance" section of our website at http://investor.healthsouth.com.

Our Bylaws provide for reimbursement of certain reasonable expenses incurred by a stockholder or a group of stockholders in connection with a proxy solicitation campaign for the election of one nominee to the board of directors. This reimbursement right is subject to conditions including the board of director's determination that reimbursement is consistent with its fiduciary duties. Following the annual meeting, we will reimburse certain expenses that a nominating stockholder, or group of nominating stockholders, has incurred in connection with nominating a candidate for election to our board of directors if the conditions set out in Section 3.4(c) of our Bylaws are met. If those conditions are met and the proponent's nominee is elected, we will reimburse the actual costs of printing and mailing the proxy materials and the fees and expenses of one law firm for reviewing the proxy materials and one proxy solicitor for conducting the related proxy solicitation. If those conditions are met and the proponent's nominee is not elected but receives 40% or more of all votes cast, we will reimburse the proportion of those qualified expenses equal to the proportion of votes that the nominee received in favor of his or her election to the total votes cast. In all cases, reimbursement will only be made if the nominating stockholders are liable for such expenses regardless of the outcome of the election of directors or receipt of reimbursement from us and no party to which such amounts are payable is an affiliate or associate of any of the nominating stockholders. In no event may the amount paid to a nominating stockholder exceed the amount of corresponding expenses incurred by us in soliciting proxies in connection with the election of directors. Further, we will not reimburse expenses in the event that our board of directors determines that any such reimbursement is not in our best interests, would result in a breach of our board's fiduciary duties, would render us insolvent or cause us to breach a material obligation. For additional detail, please read Section 3.4(c) of our Bylaws which can be found in the "Corporate Governance" section of our website at

http://investor.healthsouth.com.

#### **Evaluation of Candidates**

The Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee will consider all candidates duly identified and will evaluate each of them, including incumbents, based on the same criteria. If, after the committee's initial evaluation, a candidate meets the criteria for membership, the chair of the Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee will interview the candidate and communicate the chair's evaluation to the other members of the committee, the chairman of the board and the chief executive officer. Later reviews will be conducted by other members of the committee and senior management. Ultimately, background and reference checks will be conducted and the committee will meet to finalize its list of recommended candidates for the board's consideration. The candidates recommended for the board's consideration will be those individuals the committee believes will create a board of directors that is, as a whole, strong in its collective knowledge of, and diverse in skills and experience with respect to, accounting and finance, management and leadership, vision and strategy, business operations, business judgment, crisis management, risk assessment, information technology and cyber security, industry knowledge, and corporate governance.

## Director Independence

#### Review of Director Independence

On an annual basis, our board of directors undertakes a review of the independence of the nominees as independent directors based on our Corporate Governance Guidelines. The board assesses whether any transactions or relationships exist currently or during the past three years existed between any director or any member of his or her immediate family and the Company and its subsidiaries, affiliates, or our independent registered public accounting firm. The board examines whether there were any transactions or relationships between any director or any member of his or her immediate family and members of the senior management of the Company or their affiliates. The board further considers whether there are any charitable contributions to not-for-profit organizations for which our directors or immediate family members serve as executive officers. In connection with this determination, each director and executive officer completes a questionnaire which requires disclosure of any transactions with the Company in which the director or executive officer, or any member of his or her immediate family, has a direct or indirect material interest. There were no such director-related transactions or contributions in 2016.

#### Determination of Director Independence

Each of John W. Chidsey, Donald L. Correll, Yvonne M. Curl, Charles M. Elson, Joan E. Herman, Leo I. Higdon, Jr., Leslye G. Katz, John E. Maupin, Jr. and L. Edward Shaw, Jr. is an independent director in accordance with our Corporate Governance Guidelines. Mr. Tarr, who was our chief executive officer, is not independent. Each of our directors other than Mr. Tarr also satisfies the definition of independence contained in Rule 303A.02 of the listing standards for the New York Stock Exchange. Additionally:

each member of the Audit Committee, the Compensation Committee, and the Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee was an independent director under our Corporate Governance Guidelines and otherwise meets the qualifications for membership on such committee imposed by the NYSE and other applicable laws and regulations; each member of the Audit Committee had accounting or related financial management expertise and was financially literate, and otherwise meets the audit committee membership requirements imposed by the NYSE, our Corporate Governance Guidelines, and other applicable laws and regulations; and each of members also qualifies as an "audit committee financial expert" under SEC regulations; and

each member of the Compliance/Quality of Care Committee and the Finance Committee was an independent director under our Corporate Governance Guidelines.

#### Standards of Director Independence

Under the listing standards adopted by the NYSE, a director will be considered "independent" and found to have no material relationship with the Company if during the prior three years:

the director has not been an employee of the Company or any of its subsidiaries, and no immediate family member of the director has been an executive officer of the Company;

neither the director nor an immediate family member of the director has received more than \$120,000 in a twelve-month period during the last three years in direct compensation from the Company other than

director and committee fees and pension or other forms of direct compensation for prior service (provided such compensation is not contingent in any way on future service);

neither the director nor an immediate family member of the director has been affiliated with or employed by a present or former internal or external auditor of the Company;

neither the director nor an immediate family member of the director has been employed as an executive officer of another company where any of the Company's present executives serve on that company's compensation committee; and

the director has not been an executive officer or employee, and no immediate family member of the director has been an executive officer, of a company that makes payments to or receives payments from the Company for property or services in an amount which, in any single fiscal year, exceeded the greater of \$1 million or 2% of such other company's consolidated gross revenues.

Committees of the Board of Directors

Committee Memberships and Meetings

Our board of directors has the following five standing committees, each of which is governed by a charter and reports its actions and recommendations to the board of directors: Audit, Compensation, Compliance/Quality of Care, Finance, and Nominating/Corporate Governance. The following table shows the number of meetings and the membership of each board committee as of December 31, 2016.

			Compliance/		Nominating/
	Audit	Compensation	Quality of	Finance	Corporate
			Care		Governance
Number of Meetings in 2016:	7	8	5	5	4
John W. Chidsey	X			X	
Donald L. Correll	X			X	
Yvonne M. Curl		Chair	X		
Charles M. Elson				Chair	X
Joan E. Herman		X	Chair		
Leo I. Higdon, Jr.		X			X
Leslye G. Katz	Chair			X	
John E. Maupin, Jr.			X		X
L. Edward Shaw, Jr.		X			Chair
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**Audit Committee** 

We have a separately designated standing Audit Committee established in accordance with Section 3(a)(58)(A) of the Exchange Act. The Audit Committee's purpose, per the terms of its charter, is to assist the board of directors in fulfilling its responsibilities to the Company and its stockholders, particularly with respect to the oversight of the accounting, auditing, financial reporting, and internal control and compliance practices of the Company. The specific responsibilities of the Audit Committee are, among others, to:

assist the board of directors in the oversight of the integrity of our financial statements and compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, the qualifications and independence of our independent auditor, and the performance of our internal audit function and our independent auditor;

appoint, compensate, replace, retain, and oversee the work of our independent auditor;

at least annually, review a report by our independent auditor regarding its internal quality control procedures, material issues raised by certain reviews, inquiries or investigations relating to independent audits within the last five years, and relationships between the independent auditor and the Company;

review and evaluate our quarterly financial statements and annual audited financial statements with management and our independent auditor, including management's assessment of and the independent auditor's opinion regarding the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting prior to the filing of those financial statements with the SEC:

discuss earnings press releases as well as financial information and earnings guidance provided to analysts and rating agencies with management;

discuss policies with respect to risk assessment and risk management;

set clear hiring policies for employees or former employees of our independent auditor; and appoint and oversee the activities of our Inspector General who has the responsibility to identify violations of Company policy and law relating to accounting or public financial reporting, to review the Inspector General's periodic reports and to set compensation for the Inspector General and its staff.

In connection with its duties, the committee reviews and evaluates, at least annually, the performance of the committee and its members and may obtain the advice and assistance of outside advisors, including consultants and legal and accounting advisors.

### **Compensation Committee**

The Compensation Committee's purpose and objectives are to oversee our compensation and employee benefit objectives, plans and policies and to review and approve, or recommend to the independent members of the board of directors for approval, the individual compensation of our executive officers in order to attract and retain high-quality personnel to better ensure our long-term success and the creation of long-term stockholder value. The specific responsibilities of the Compensation Committee are, among others, to:

review and approve our compensation programs and policies, including our benefit plans, incentive compensation plans and equity-based plans; amend or recommend that the board of directors amend such programs, policies, goals or objectives; and act as (or designate) an administrator for such plans as may be required;

review and recommend to the board of directors corporate goals and objectives relevant to the compensation of the chief executive officer and evaluate the performance of the chief executive officer in light of those goals and objectives;

review and approve corporate goals and objectives relevant to the compensation of the other executive officers and evaluate the performance of those executive officers in light of those goals and objectives;

determine and approve, together with the other independent directors, the base compensation level and incentive compensation level for the chief executive officer;

determine and approve the compensation levels for the other executive officers;

review and discuss with management the Company's Compensation Discussion and Analysis, and recommend inclusion thereof in our annual report or proxy statement;

review and approve (or recommend to the board of directors in the case of the chief executive officer) employment arrangements, severance arrangements and termination arrangements and change in control arrangements to be made with any executive officer of the Company; and

review and recommend to the board of directors fees and retainers for non-employee members of the board and non-employee members and chairpersons of committees of the board.

In connection with its duties, the committee reviews and evaluates, at least annually, the performance of the committee and its members and may obtain the advice and assistance of outside advisors, including consultants and legal and accounting advisors. The Compensation Committee has the sole authority to set the compensation for, and to terminate the services of, its advisors. As discussed in further detail in the table on page 30, the Compensation Committee engaged the independent compensation consultant, Frederic W. Cook & Co., Inc., to assist it in its review and evaluation of executive compensation practices. The Compensation Committee has reviewed the independence of Frederic W. Cook & Co. and of each individual employee of the firm with whom it works. Frederic W. Cook & Co. does not perform other services for the Company, and the total fees paid to Frederic W. Cook & Co. during fiscal 2016 did not exceed \$120,000. The Compensation Committee has determined Frederic W. Cook & Co. has no conflict of interest in providing advisory services.

#### Compliance/Quality of Care Committee

The Compliance/Quality of Care Committee's function is to assist our board of directors in fulfilling its fiduciary responsibilities relating to our regulatory compliance and cyber risk management activities and to ensure we deliver quality care to our patients. The committee is primarily responsible for overseeing, monitoring, and evaluating our compliance with all of its regulatory obligations other than tax and securities law-related obligations and reviewing the quality of services provided to patients at our facilities. The primary objectives and responsibilities of the Compliance/Quality of Care Committee are to:

ensure the establishment and maintenance of a regulatory compliance program and the development of a comprehensive quality of care program designed to measure and improve the quality of care and safety furnished to patients;

appoint and oversee the activities of a chief compliance officer with responsibility for developing and implementing our regulatory compliance program, which is subject to our annual review, and approve, and perform, or have performed, an annual evaluation of the performance of the chief compliance officer and the compliance office; oversee the cyber risk management program developed by the chief information officer and designed to monitor, mitigate and respond to cyber risks, threats, and incidents;

review and approve annually the quality program description and the performance of the chief medical officer and the quality of care program;

review periodic reports from the chief compliance officer, including an annual regulatory compliance report summarizing compliance-related activities undertaken by us during the year, and the results of all regulatory compliance audits conducted during the year;

review periodic reports from the chief information officer, including developments in cyber threat environment and cyber risk mitigation efforts; and

review periodic reports from the chief medical officer regarding the Company's efforts to advance patient safety and quality of care.

In connection with its duties, the committee reviews and evaluates, at least annually, the performance of the committee and its members and may obtain the advice and assistance of outside advisors, including consultants and legal and accounting advisors.

Finance Committee

The purpose and objectives of the Finance Committee are to assist our board of directors in the oversight of the use and development of our financial resources, including our financial structure, investment policies and objectives, and other matters of a financial and investment nature. The specific responsibilities of the Finance Committee are to review and approve certain expenditures, contractual obligations and financial commitments per delegated authority from our board of directors and to review, evaluate, and make recommendations to the board:

capital structure and proposed changes thereto, including significant new issuances, purchases, or redemptions of our securities;

plans for allocation and disbursement of capital expenditures;

eredit rating, activities with credit rating agencies, and key financial ratios;

long-term financial strategy and financial needs;

unusual or significant commitments or contingent liabilities; and

plans to manage insurance and asset risk.

In addition to its other responsibilities, the committee oversees our major activities with respect to mergers, acquisitions and divestitures. The committee also reviews and evaluates, at least annually, the performance of the committee and its members. In connection with its duties, the committee may obtain the advice and assistance of outside advisors, including financial and legal advisors.

Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee

The purposes and objectives of the Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee are to assist our board of directors in fulfilling its duties and responsibilities to us and our stockholders, and its specific responsibilities include, among others, to:

assist the board of directors in determining the appropriate characteristics, skills and experience for the individual members of the board of directors and the board of directors as a whole and create a process to allow the committee to identify and evaluate individuals qualified to become board members;

make recommendations to the board regarding the composition of each standing committee of the board, to monitor the functioning of the committees of the board and make recommendations for any changes, review annually committee assignments and the policy with respect to rotation of committee memberships and/or chairpersonships, and report any recommendations to the board;

review the suitability for each board member's continued service as a director when his or her term expires, and recommend whether or not the director should be re-nominated;

assist the board in considering whether a transaction between a board member and the Company presents an inappropriate conflict of interest and/or impairs the independence of any board member;

recommend nominees for board membership to be submitted for stockholder vote at each annual meeting of stockholders, and to recommend to the board candidates to fill vacancies on the board and newly-created positions on the board; and

develop and recommend to the board Corporate Governance Guidelines for the Company that are consistent with applicable laws and listing standards and to periodically review those guidelines and to recommend to the board such changes as the committee deems necessary or advisable.

The committee reviews and evaluates, at least annually, the performance of the committee and its members. In connection with its duties, the committee may obtain the advice and assistance of outside advisors, including consultants and legal advisors.

### Compensation of Directors

In 2016, we provided the following annual compensation to directors who are not employees:

	Fees Earned	Stock	All Other	
Name	or Paid	Awards	Compensation	Total (\$)
	in Cash (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	$(\$)^{(2)}$	$(\$)^{(3)}$	
John W. Chidsey	106,346	145,029	48,519	299,894
Donald L. Correll	98,269	145,029	51,266	294,564
Yvonne M. Curl	113,269	145,029	51,266	309,564
Charles M. Elson	108,269	145,029	51,266	304,564
Joan E. Herman	108,269	145,029	13,503	266,801
Leo I. Higdon, Jr.	214,615	145,029	51,266	410,910
Leslye G. Katz	111,346	145,029	13,503	269,878
John E. Maupin, Jr.	101,731	145,029	51,266	298,026
L. Edward Shaw, Jr.	104,808	145,029	51,266	301,103

The amounts reflected in this column are the retainer and chairperson fees earned for service as a director for 2016,

<sup>(1)</sup> regardless of when such fees are paid. Mr. Chidsey elected to defer 100% of his fees earned in 2016 under the Directors' Deferred Stock Investment Plan.

Each non-employee director received an award of restricted stock units with a grant date fair value, computed in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification 718, Compensation – Stock Compensation, of \$145,029, (3,559 units). These awards are fully vested in that they are not subject to forfeiture; however, no shares underlying a

<sup>(2)</sup> particular award will be issued until after the date the director ends his or her service on the board. As of December 31, 2016, each director held the following aggregate RSU awards: Mr. Chidsey – 54,732, Mr. Correll – 57,730, Ms. Curl – 57,730, Mr. Elson – 57,730, Ms. Herman – 16,511, Mr. Higdon – 57,730, Ms. Katz – 16,511, Dr. Maupin – 57,730, and Mr. Shaw – 57,730. There were no other outstanding stock awards.

The amounts reflected in this column represent the value of additional RSUs granted as dividend equivalents in

(3) connection with the payment of dividends on our common stock during 2016 as required by the terms of the original grants.

Under the terms of our 2016 Omnibus Performance Incentive Plan approved by our stockholders in 2016, the value of each of the equity awards granted and the cash fees paid to a non-employee director in a year cannot exceed \$300,000, and the total of both cannot exceed \$600,000.

Effective May 5, 2016, our non-employee directors receive an annual base cash retainer of \$100,000. In addition to the base cash retainer, the following table sets forth the chairperson fees paid to compensate for the enhanced responsibilities and time commitment associated with the positions.

Chair Position	Fees Earned or Paid
Chan Fosition	in Cash (\$)
Chairman of the Board <sup>(1)</sup>	125,000
Audit Committee	20,000
Compensation Committee	15,000
Compliance/Quality of Care Committee	10,000
Finance Committee	10,000
Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee	10,000

<sup>(1)</sup> The board of directors approved an increase from \$100,000 to \$125,000 on May 5, 2016.

Our non-employee directors may elect to defer all or part of their cash fees under our Directors' Deferred Stock Investment Plan. Elections must be made prior to the beginning of the applicable year. Under the plan, amounts deferred by non-employee directors are promptly invested in our common stock by the plan trustee at the market price at the time of the payment of the fees. Stock held in the deferred accounts is entitled to any dividends paid on our common stock, which dividends are promptly invested in our common stock by the plan trustee at the market price. Fees deferred under the plan and/or the acquired stock are held in a "rabbi trust" by the plan trustee. Accordingly, the plan is treated as unfunded for federal tax purposes. Amounts deferred and any dividends reinvested under the plan are distributed in the form of our common stock upon termination from board service for any reason. Distributions generally will commence within 30 days of leaving the board. As of December 31, 2016, the number of shares held in the plan were: Dr. Maupin's 2,054 shares, Mr. Chidsey's 41,486 shares, and Mr. Shaw's 14,213 shares.

In addition, each non-employee member of the board of directors receives a grant of restricted stock units valued at approximately \$145,000. When dividends are paid on our common stock, the directors receive the equivalent in restricted stock units based on the number of restricted stock units held and the value of the stock. The restricted stock units held by each director will be settled in shares of our common stock following the director's departure from the

In furtherance of the goal to align the interests of our management with those of our stockholders, we have equity ownership guidelines for senior management and members of the board of directors. Each non-employee director should own equity equal in value to the greater of \$500,000 or five times the annual base cash retainer within five years of appointment or election to the board. As of February 18, 2017, all of our non-employee directors have satisfied the guidelines.

As employees, Messrs. Grinney and Tarr received no additional compensation for serving on the board in 2016. Indemnification and Exculpation

We indemnify our directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted by Delaware law. Our certificate of incorporation also includes provisions that eliminate the personal liability of our directors for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, except for liability:

for any breach of the director's duty of loyalty to us or our stockholders;

for acts or omissions not in good faith or that involved intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law; under Section 174 of the Delaware law (regarding unlawful payment of dividends); or

for any transaction from which the director derives an improper personal benefit.

We believe these provisions are necessary to attract and retain qualified people who will be free from undue concern about personal liability in connection with their service to us.

#### AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

The board of directors has the ultimate authority for effective corporate governance, including the role of oversight of the management of the Company. The Audit Committee's purpose is to assist the board of directors in fulfilling its responsibilities to the Company and its stockholders by overseeing the accounting and financial reporting processes, the qualifications and selection of the independent registered public accounting firm engaged by the Company, and the performance of the Company's Inspector General, internal auditors and independent registered public accounting firm. The Audit Committee members' functions are not intended to duplicate or to certify the activities of management or the Company's independent registered public accounting firm.

In its oversight role, the Audit Committee relies on the expertise, knowledge and assurances of management, the internal auditors, and the independent registered public accounting firm. Management has the primary responsibility for establishing and maintaining effective systems of internal and disclosure controls (including internal control over financial reporting), for preparing financial statements, and for the public reporting process. PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, is responsible for performing an independent audit of the Company's consolidated financial statements, for expressing an opinion on the conformity of the Company's audited financial statements with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States, and for expressing its own opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as required by Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. In this context, the Audit Committee:

reviewed and discussed with management and PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP the fair and complete presentation of the Company's consolidated financial statements and related periodic reports filed with the SEC (including the audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016, and PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP's audit of the Company's internal control over financial reporting);

discussed with PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP the matters required to be discussed by Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61, as amended (AICPA, Professional Standards, Vol. 1, AU Section 380), as adopted by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (the "PCAOB") in Rule 3200T; and

received the written disclosures and the letter from PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP required by PCAOB Rule 3526 (Communication with Audit Committees Concerning Independence) and discussed with PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP its independence from the Company and its management.

The Audit Committee also discussed with the Company's internal auditors and PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP the overall scope and plans for their respective audits; reviewed and discussed with management, the internal auditors, and PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP the significant accounting policies applied by the Company in its financial statements, as well as alternative treatments and risk assessment; and met periodically in executive sessions with each of management, the internal auditors, and PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.

The Audit Committee was kept apprised of the progress of management's assessment of the Company's internal control over financial reporting and provided oversight to management during the process.

Based on the reviews and discussions described above, the Audit Committee recommended to the board of directors, and the board of directors approved, that the audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016, and management's assessment of the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2016, be included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 for filing with the SEC. The Audit Committee has selected PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for 2017.

Audit Committee Leslye G. Katz (Chair) John W. Chidsey Donald L. Correll

#### COMPENSATION COMMITTEE MATTERS

Scope of Authority

The Compensation Committee acts on behalf of the board of directors to establish the compensation of our executive officers, other than the chief executive officer, and provides oversight of the Company's compensation philosophy for senior management. The Compensation Committee reviews and recommends to the board of directors for final approval the compensation of the chief executive officer and the non-employee directors. The Compensation Committee also acts as the oversight committee and administrator with respect to our equity compensation, bonus and other compensation plans covering executive officers and other senior management. In overseeing those plans, the Compensation Committee may delegate authority for day-to-day administration and interpretation of the plans, including selection of participants, determination of award levels within plan parameters, and approval of award documents, to officers of the Company. However, the Compensation Committee may not delegate any authority under those plans for matters affecting the compensation and benefits of the executive officers. The Compensation Committee may also delegate other responsibilities to a subcommittee comprised of no fewer than two of its members, provided that it may not delegate any power or authority required by any applicable law or listing standard to be exercised by the committee as a whole.

Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation

None of the current members of our Compensation Committee is an officer or employee of the Company. None of our current executive officers serves or has served as a member of the board of directors or compensation committee of any other company that had one or more executive officers serving as a member of our board of directors or Compensation Committee.

Compensation Committee Report

The Compensation Committee reviewed and discussed with management the Compensation Discussion and Analysis required by Item 402(b) of Regulation S-K, and, based upon such review and discussions, the Compensation Committee recommended to the board of directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in this proxy statement and incorporated by reference in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016.

Compensation Committee Yvonne M. Curl (Chair) Joan E. Herman Leo I. Higdon, Jr. L. Edward Shaw, Jr.

#### **EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

In this section we present the key components of our executive compensation program. We explain why we compensate our executives in the manner we do and how these philosophies guide the individual compensation decisions for our named executive officers, or "NEOs." Our 2016 compensation decisions were directed by our board of directors and its Compensation Committee, which we refer to as the "Committee" in this section only.

**Executive Succession** 

In 2016, we experienced multiple NEO transitions:

Jay Grinney retired as our President and Chief Executive Officer effective December 29, 2016.

Mark J. Tarr was promoted to President and Chief Executive Officer effective December 29, 2016.

Barbara A. Jacobsmeyer was promoted to Executive Vice President of Operations effective December 29, 2016. Patrick Darby was appointed as our Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary effective February 18, 2016.

Our NEOs as of December 31, 2016 were:

Name Title

Jay Grinney Former President and Chief Executive Officer

Mark J. Tarr President and Chief Executive Officer

Douglas E. Coltharp Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Patrick Darby Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary

Barbara A. Jacobsmeyer Executive Vice President of Operations Cheryl B. Levy Chief Human Resources Officer

However, Mr. Tarr's and Ms. Jacobsmeyer's compensation for their elevated roles did not take effect until January 1, 2017. Given the timing of the year-end senior management transitions and the 2017 effective dates of the associated compensation actions, for purposes of 2016 discussion and analysis below, Mr. Grinney's compensation reflects that of the President and CEO position; Mr. Tarr's reflects that of the Chief Operating Officer; and Ms. Jacobsmeyer's reflects her role as a Regional President. Accordingly, the information in this section does not take into account the senior management succession at the end of 2016 unless otherwise noted.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

#### Strategy and Business Overview

HealthSouth is one of the nation's largest providers of post-acute healthcare services, offering both facility-based and home-based post-acute services in 35 states and Puerto Rico through our network of inpatient rehabilitation hospitals, home health agencies, and hospice agencies. This structure allows us to provide a continuum of facility-based and home-based post-acute services to our patients and their families, which we believe will become increasingly important as coordinated care and integrated delivery payment models, such as accountable care organizations and bundled payment arrangements, become more prevalent.

2016 Business Highlights and Recent Track Record

In 2016, we continued to successfully execute our business strategy:

- "Net operating revenues increased by 17.2% over 2015 due primarily to our acquisitions of the operations of Reliant Hospital Partners, LLC on October 1, 2015 and CareSouth Health System, Inc. on November 2, 2015.
- Our total inpatient rehabilitation facility, or "IRF," patient discharges and "same-store" discharges grew 10.8% and 1.7%, respectively.
- ü Our total home health admissions and "same-store" admissions grew 43.6% and 13.7%, respectively.
- Our hospitals treated more patients than the prior year and delivered enhanced outcomes in a highly cost-effective manner.
- We entered new inpatient rehabilitation markets and enhanced our geographic coverage in existing markets in 2016 üby adding 4 new hospitals with 161 licensed beds to our portfolio as well as another 10 home health and 8 hospice locations.
- üWe integrated the operations of Reliant Hospital Partners, LLC and CareSouth Health System, Inc.
- We continued to outperform the industry averages in many inpatient rehabilitation and home health quality of care measures.
- We increased our quarterly cash dividend by 4.3% from \$0.23 per share to \$0.24 per share, and we repurchased 1.7 million shares of our common stock.

Our success in 2016 continued to build upon our success in prior years. We have achieved a consistent track record of superior performance.

Operating Performance and Executive Compensation

We utilize performance objectives in our compensation plans which we believe will, over time, lead to enhanced stockholder value. Over the past several years, we established a track record of strong results from operations, and these results, as highlighted above, continued in 2016. Healthcare always has been a highly regulated industry. Successful healthcare providers are those who provide high-quality, cost-effective care and have the ability to adjust to changes in the regulatory and operating environments. We believe we have the necessary capabilities — scale, infrastructure, capital structure, and human resource talent — to adapt to changes and continue to succeed in a highly regulated industry, and we have a proven track record of doing so.

Overview of Executive Compensation Actions in 2016

In February 2016, our board of directors (for actions related to our President and Chief Executive Officer) and the Committee (for all other NEOs) considered the total compensation packages, both in whole and by component, of our NEOs to determine appropriateness in light of our executive compensation philosophy, 2015 accomplishments, 2016 anticipated challenges, and senior management succession planning. We took the following actions:

February 2016 Executive Compensation Actions Summary

Compensation Component	Actions Related to Plans from Prior Years	Actions Related to 2016 Plans
Base Salary	Not applicable.	<ul> <li>Increased base salaries for Messrs. Tarr and Coltharp.</li> </ul>
	12015 GMDD	Approved 2016 design with increases in target award opportunity for Messrs. Tarr and Coltharp and Ms. Levy.
Senior Management Bonus Plan ("SMBP")	Approved 2015 SMBP awards based on performance compared to targets; awards equaled a weighted average of 76.0% of target opportunity.	Retained adjusted consolidated earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortization expenses, or "Adjusted EBITDA," while introducing "Quality Scorecard" (defined below) in place of Program Evaluation Model ("PEM") Score Ranking as the corporate performance metrics.
Long-Term Incentive Plan ("LTIP")	Approved 2014 LTIP award payouts based on performance compared to targets for the 2014-2015 performance period; awards equaled a weighted average of 65.4% of target opportunity.	Approved 2016 design; increased Ms. Levy's target to 125% of base salary.  Revised design of performance-based restricted stock awards to include only two metrics: earnings per share, or "EPS," and return on invested capital, or "ROIC" (eliminating relative total shareholder return).
In 2016, as part o	f the oversight of senior management succession p	shareholder return).

In 2016, as part of the oversight of senior management succession planning, our board and the Committee approved the following actions:

the following actions:				
NEO	Role Change	Compensation Actions		
		•		
		Base salary increase to \$900,000 effective January 1, 2017.		
Mark J. Tarr	·	•		
		SMBP target increase to 100% effective		
		in 2017.		
		•		
		LTIP target set at \$2,700,000 for 2017.		
Douglas E.	Added Information Technology and Managed Care	•		
Coltharp	Network Contracting responsibilities effective December	Base salary increase to \$700,000		
	29, 2016.	effective January 1, 2017.		
		•		
		SMBP target increase to 85% effective in 2017.		

LTIP target increase to 200% for 2017.

•

One-time awards of ~\$500,000 in RSAs and ~\$500,000 in stock options in 2016.

•

Base salary increase to \$450,000 effective January 1, 2017.

Barbara A. Jacobsmeyer

Promoted to Executive Vice President of Operations from Regional President effective December 29, 2016.

•

SMBP target increase to 70% effective in 2017.

•

LTIP target increase to 150% for 2017.

## Response to 2016 Proxy Votes

The Committee believes the 98.1% affirmative vote on our 2016 "say-on-pay" vote coupled with the 88.8% approval of our 2016 Omnibus Performance Incentive Plan indicates that our stockholders support our current executive compensation program. In 2016, we made minor changes to our executive compensation program designed to align our plans with our business strategy in an evolving healthcare market while continuing to emphasize performance-based compensation.

#### EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION PHILOSOPHY

HealthSouth's executive compensation philosophy is to:

provide a competitive rewards program for our senior management that aligns management's interests with those of our long-term stockholders;

correlate compensation with corporate, regional and business unit outcomes by recognizing performance with appropriate levels and forms of awards;

establish financial and operational goals to sustain strong performance over time;

place 100% of annual cash incentives and a majority of equity incentive awards at risk by directly linking those incentive payments and awards to the Company's and individual's performance; and provide limited executive benefits to members of senior management.

We believe this philosophy will enable us to attract, motivate, and retain talented and engaged executives who will enhance long-term stockholder value.

Pay and Performance

Our executive compensation program is designed to provide a strong correlation between pay and performance. Pay refers to the value of an executive's total direct compensation, or "TDC."

Total Direct Compensation = Base Salary + Annual Cash Incentive + Long-Term Equity Incentives NEO Target Total Direct Compensation

Named Executive Officer	Base Salary	Target Annual Cash Incentive (% of Base)	e Target Long-Term Equity Incentive (% of Base)	Target Total Direct Compensation
Jay Grinney	\$1,000,000	0100%	550%	\$ 7,500,000
Mark J. Tarr	650,000	85%	200%	2,502,500
Douglas E. Coltharp	580,000	80%	150%	1,914,000
Patrick Darby	475,000	60%	150%	1,472,500
Barbara A. Jacobsmeye	r 375,000	60%	125%	1,068,750
Cheryl B. Levy	345,000	60%	125%	983,250

In 2016, all cash incentive target amounts and a substantial majority of NEO equity award values were dependent on performance measured against certain pre-determined, board-approved objectives. The graphs below reflect: (i) the time frame (i.e., annual vs. long-term) for our NEOs to realize the value of the various TDC components and (ii) the extent to which our NEOs' 2016 target TDC is performance-based.

President & Chief Execu Officer	tive Executive V	Vice Presidents	Senior Vice Pre	esidents	
(Mr. Grinney)	(Messrs. Tar Darby)	rr, Coltharp and	(Mmes. Jacobs)	meyer and	d Levy)
Annual Long Term	Annual	Long Term	Annual	Long Te	rm
13.3% 13.3% 14.7% 44.0	% 14.7% 28.9% 22.1%	% 9.8% 29.4% 9.8%	35.1% 21.1%	26.3%	17.5%

Performance-based	Performance-based	Performance-based
at Risk = $72.0\%$	at Risk = $61.3\%$	at Risk = $47.4\%$

Base Salary Annual Incentive Stock Options Performance-based Restricted Stock Time-based Restricted Stock

Annually, as a "checkup" of pay and performance, Frederic W. Cook & Co. prepares an analysis of the prior year TDC for the NEOs and the reported prior year TDC for the NEOs of our peer companies for the "Healthcare Peer Group" (as identified below). This analysis includes our rankings against the peer group for key financial and operating performance metrics for one-, three-, and five-year periods. These metrics are grouped into four categories: "growth,"

"operating performance," "returns," and "investor experience." The Committee has not taken any specific action in response to this information but does consider it in assessing whether the Company is paying for performance – both absolute and relative to peers. During the October 2016 review, for periods ending in 2015, HealthSouth's performance was above median for 21 of these metrics while falling below median for 9 of these metrics.

### Other Best Practices

To ensure the Company has strong corporate governance and risk mitigation, the board of directors also adopted the following best practices related to executive compensation:

Both our annual and long-term incentive plans have maximum award features;

Our annual and long-term incentive plans are designed with multiple measures of performance;

Our annual incentive plan includes both financial and quality metrics;

Our compensation recoupment, or "claw-back," policy applies to both cash and equity incentives;

• Equity ownership guidelines for our senior executives and directors require our senior executives to retain 50% of their net shares at the time of exercise/vest until their ownership multiple is met;