

Date: 1-18-11

Mr. Dale Galassie, Chairman  
Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board  
525 West Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

**RECEIVED**

JAN 20 2011

HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Re: Project Reference #10-066

Dear Mr. Galassie and  
Members of the Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board:

I am writing this letter on behalf of and in support of Fresenius Medical Center and the above-referenced project. By this letter, I intend to voice my support in favor of a sixteen (16) station dialysis clinic to be located at 1721 East Jackson Street, Joliet, Illinois. By this letter, I am also asking that you and the Board of Review grant the request for a Certificate of Need.

As you may be aware, Fresenius Medical Care has approximately 2,000 dialysis clinics in the United States – approximately 100 in the State of Illinois. Fresenius offers several different modalities of dialysis treatment including in-center hemodialysis, nocturnal dialysis, home dialysis, and peritoneal dialysis.

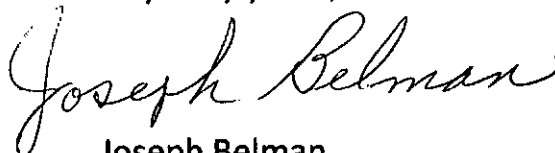
Fresenius treats any patient regardless of ability to pay and the clinics that have been established throughout the State have been located in both affluent and economically challenged areas within the State. In rural county Illinois, for example, Fresenius established a clinic in Bolingbrook approximately ten (10) years ago that started out with fifteen (15) stations which has now been expanded to twenty-four (24) stations. Despite the expansions, the facility located in Bolingbrook has been heavily utilized. Fresenius also has facilities in Mokena, Lockport, and Plainfield.

The patient population on the east side of Joliet which will be directly affected by the proposed project consists of the following: Hispanic (46.4%) and African-American (30.5%) as of the 2000 Census. It is estimated that those numbers have actually increased since the 2000 Census. Further, Hispanics and African-Americans are twice as likely as the general population to experience hypertension and diabetes, which are both leading causes of kidney failure.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide this information as well as to provide this letter in support of the proposed facility to be located on the east side of Joliet. I hope that you and your Board Members will look favorably upon the Certificate of Need and will allow the establishment of the Center to move forward. Though I am limited by time

and space constraints, if you have any additional further questions, please feel free to contact me at the above-listed address and telephone number. I wholeheartedly and without reservation place my support of the above-referenced project.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph Belman". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Joseph Belman

Chairman of Mexican American Coalition of Will County  
137 N Jefferson Street  
Lockport, IL 60441  
(815) 838-1254