

Constantino, Mike

From: Anne Cooper [ACooper@Polsinelli.com]
Sent: Monday, September 19, 2011 10:24 AM
To: Constantino, Mike
Subject: Crest Hill Proj. No. 11-004
Attachments: Crest Hill Support Letters (09-19-2011).pdfa.pdf

Mike,

Attached please find an additional support letter for Crest Hill Dialysis Proj. No. 11-004.

Thanks.

Anne



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COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY & COMMERCE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1602

September 15, 2011

Mr. Dale Galassie
Chairman
Illinois Health Facilities and
Service Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street – Second Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Dear Mr. Galassie:

I am pleased to have this opportunity to express my support for the efforts of Dr. Nalia Ahmed and her colleagues with North East Nephrology Consultants to open a kidney dialysis center to be located at 20660 Caton Farm Road in Crest Hill, Illinois.

I recognize patients with End Stage Renal Diseases often face numerous other healthcare issues, as well as a major time commitment to a dialysis center in order to receive life-sustaining dialysis treatment. The pressure of coping with this extremely serious disease is difficult at best for these patients and their loved ones. Many patients must rely on their family members and friends to assist them with transportation, potentially complicating an already stressful environment with extended travel times and/or off hour treatment sessions due to the lack of sufficient capacity. In addition, this situation may create an added financial burden for them and often times the taxpayer. It makes good sense to ensure these centers are located within a reasonable driving distance of the patients.

It is my understanding Dr. Ahmed and her colleagues with the North East Nephrology Consultants group intend to demonstrate that with the closure of Silver Cross Hospital in Joliet and the very limited capacity of the remaining dialysis centers in Joliet, many of my constituents in the City of Joliet and surrounding areas will find it necessary to travel to the Cities of Morris, Naperville, Bolingbrook and even Kankakee for dialysis – assuming these centers have the necessary available capacity.

Dr. Ahmed and her colleagues have outstanding reputations for providing high quality and caring treatment to their current nephrology patients. North East Nephrology has expressed their obligation to utilizing the advanced dialysis technologies now becoming available to improve the quality of life for dialysis patients. An additional commitment is being made to

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provide the ultimate service to their patients – a kidney transplant – as demonstrated by the recent hiring of a transplant coordinator for the current practice.

Given the seeming lack of dialysis facilities in this area and the outstanding work to date of Dr. Ahmed and her colleagues, it would appear to me the health care needs of my constituents will be better met – without an increase in the cost of care – through the establishment of the requested new dialysis center.

Thank you, in advance, for your serious consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Adam Kinzinger
Member of Congress

AK/PL