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August 17, 2017

Via Federal Express Via E-Mail

Ms. Courtney Avery Administrator

Springfield, Illinois 62761

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review

525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor

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HEALTH FACILITIES & SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

## Re: Alpine Dialysis – Request for Expedited Review

Dear Ms. Avery:

Board

On behalf of DaVita Inc. and Total Renal Care, Inc. (collectively "DaVita"), we respectfully request the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board ("State Board") grant expedited review of the above-referenced Alpine Dialysis application for certificate of need permit (the "CON Application") and consider the CON Application at the November 14, 2017 State Board meeting. This project proposes to establish and 8 station facility to be located at 3157 South Alpine Road, Rockford, Illinois. It is critical the CON Application be heard at the November 14, 2017. Rockford and the surrounding area have experienced significant growth in the number of end-stage renal disease ("ESRD") patients over the past several years. Additional stations are warranted to address the growing need for dialysis. If the CON Application is approved, DaVita would hope the Alpine Dialysis would be operational by the second quarter of 2019.

In filing the CON Application, DaVita seeks authority from the State Board to establish an 8 station dialysis facility. Average utilization of area dialysis facilities is 83.33%, exceeding the State Board's utilization standard. Furthermore, patient census among the existing facilities within the Alpine Dialysis geographic service area has increased 5.4% over the past two years. This growth is anticipated to continue to increase for the foresceable future due to the demographics of the community and U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that 15% of American adults suffer from chronic kidney disease ("CKD"). When diagnosed, many of these patients will be further along in the progression of CKD and will require dialysis within the next several years. To ensure access to life sustaining dialysis services are available to

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patients in Rockford and the surrounding area, DaVita respectfully requests the State Board consider the Alpine Dialysis application at the November 14, 2017 State Board meeting.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our request for expedited review of the Alpine Dialysis CON Application. If you have any questions or need any additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

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Anne M. Cooper