

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHSA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

HAND DELIVERED

December 14, 2017

RECEIVED

DEC 15 2017

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, Second Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed support letter from Terry Link, State Senator for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

ENCLOSURE(s)

Office: 217/544-1551

Health Care Consulting
133 South Fourth Street, Suite 200 • Springfield, IL 62701
foley@foleyandassociates.com



Fax: 217/544-3615

CAPITOL OFFICE:
321 STATE CAPITOL BUILDING
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706
PHONE: (217) 782-8181
FAX: (217) 782-4450

ILLINOIS STATE SENATE



TERRY LINK

ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER
STATE SENATOR - 30TH DISTRICT

DISTRICT OFFICE:
100 SOUTH GREENLEAF STREET
GURNEE, ILLINOIS 60031
PHONE: (847) 623-3006
FAX: (847) 623-3306

December 12, 2017

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street
Springfield, Illinois 62761

RE: Certificate of Need Application

Dear Ms. Avery,

As State Senator for the 30th District, I am writing in support of US HealthVest's Certificate of Need to expand and enhance behavioral health services on the Vista Medical Center West campus. There is a serious unmet need for specialized psychiatric services that has resulted in patients being deferred or denied treatment in ever increasing numbers. Approval of this application will begin to increase access to these key services in Waukegan, North Chicago, throughout Lake County and beyond. According to the latest Lake County Community Health Assessment Report, mental health issues affect 23% of adults in Lake County with suicide being the 10th leading cause of death in Lake County. The Report also indicated that mental health was the highest priority when identifying and building system capacity. I am critically aware of the lack of inpatient psychiatric services. Lake County struggles to find the appropriate care for its residents with chronic and acute mental health issues. My constituents end up in programs or facilities where distance adversely impacts family participation in treatment and aftercare services. Consequently, I see our citizens refusing needed and vital services or they simply fail to complete aftercare because of significant expense and inconvenience. US HealthVest is making a significant investment in the renovation of the facility that will revitalize the campus. The new hospital will not only bring more qualified health professionals to Waukegan, but will offer new programs – much needed programs for patients and their family members and more inpatient beds than are currently available.

Please help our community and approve the application to expand behavioral health services at Vista Medical Center West.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terry Link", written over a horizontal line.

Terry Link
State Senator - 30th District