

E-038-17

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**MATTIE HUNTER**  
MAJORITY CAUCUS WHIP  
STATE SENATOR - 3RD DISTRICT

September 7, 2017

Ms. Courtney Avery  
Administrator  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 West Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: Certificate of Exemption Number: E-083-17, Sinai Health System/Holy Cross Hospital

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am writing to express my support for Sinai Health System to centralize in-patient rehabilitation care at Schwab Rehabilitation Hospital. Holy Cross Hospital plans to discontinue the In-Patient Rehabilitation Unit services on November 1, 2017. Patients requiring out-patient rehabilitation will continue their care at Holy Cross Hospital. Schwab and Holy Cross Hospitals are both part of Sinai Health System. The mission based health care provided by Holy Cross Hospital and Sinai Health System have well served southwest and west side Chicago communities through many very challenging times.

The consolidation of Inpatient Rehabilitation services responds to increasing best practice trends for community, home-based and sub-acute treatment for rehabilitation care. Patients requiring higher complexity in-patient services are often best cared for with the comprehensive range of services provided by rehabilitation specialty hospitals.

Schwab Rehabilitation Hospital has 19 specialty physicians in physical medicine and rehabilitation on staff including fellowship trained physicians in brain injury, spinal cord injury, pain management and electrodiagnostics. Schwab is one of the three freestanding rehabilitation hospitals in the metropolitan Chicago area and has programs that include extensive psychological and emotional counseling, specialized support groups by injury type, seven treatment gyms, a warm water indoor therapy pool and an award winning therapeutic rooftop garden. Schwab has one of the highest nationally ranked programs for residency training in physical medicine and rehabilitation and receives patients from over 50 leading hospitals across Illinois and the Midwest.

I believe that this consolidation will improve the range of high quality rehabilitation services for people in my district that require in-patient rehabilitation services. I strongly urge the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board to support the Sinai Health System consolidation of in-patient rehabilitation services at Schwab Rehabilitation Hospital.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mattie Hunter".

Mattie Hunter  
Majority Caucus Whip  
Illinois State Senator  
3rd Legislative District