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STATE OF ILLINOIS
100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ILLINOIS STATE SENATE

JIL TRACY
STATE SENATOR
47TH DISTRICT

December 13th, 2018

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

Dear Administrator Avery:

I am writing in support of the certificate of need application by the Quincy Medical Group (QMG) for an Ambulatory Surgery Treatment Center (ASTC) in Quincy, IL (project #18-042). This proposal will result in a multitude of healthcare benefits to the 250,000+ patients who use Quincy as their medical hub, in addition to producing significant economic benefits to this area as a whole.

There are currently five ASTC's located within the West Central Illinois planning area—one of these is located in Quincy, while the other four are located over 100 miles away in Springfield. New technology has enabled more surgeries to be performed in a less expensive outpatient setting, and CMS continues to increase the number of procedures/surgeries that are eligible for reimbursement when performed in an ASTC. QMG's proposal would increase the number of outpatient surgeries that can be performed in this area, totaling to a projected 30% reduction in fees. This will have a positive impact on both citizens who will be able to take advantage of more reasonable treatment options close to home, as well as local businesses who continue to experience rising healthcare and insurance costs.

The entire community will reap additional economic benefits through QMG's plan to locate the surgery center at the Quincy Mall in the former site of Bergner's department store. This repurposing of space will replace significant tax dollars lost by Bergner's departure and ensure that mall businesses see increased traffic. QMG has always played a critical role in securing the presence of high-quality physicians in Quincy. The ASTC will only enhance physicians' ability to perform surgeries and procedures in a lower cost, yet superior care setting. With this in mind, I ask that you and the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board support this important project for the citizens of Quincy and the surrounding area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jil Tracy".

Jil Tracy
State Senator
Illinois 47th District