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MAR 26 2019

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

March 26, 2019

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

Re: Project No. 19-004, Smith Village

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed letter of support from Bill Cunningham, Illinois 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



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March 22, 2019

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

RE Granting Certificate of Need to Smith Village

Dear Ms. Avery and Members of the Board:

I can attest to the very positive contributions Smith Village makes to the well-being of many citizens who have enjoyed raising their families in my District. Over the years, Smith Village continues to earn its position as the leading continuing care retirement community in our area because it thoughtfully invests in ways to meet and anticipate the needs of older adults in our region.

So, I endorse Smith Village's plan to commit to a major renovation of its skilled care nursing wing which was built in 1990. All other building on its campus was completed in 2008. With changes in how hospitals now serve their patients with private rooms and other amenities, it has become very clear Smith Village should invest \$24 million to renovate this entire 3-story wing on its campus. This newest commitment to its mission, augments the \$86 million Smith Village spent when it constructed independent and assisted living residences and common areas for contemporary lifestyle older adults expect and deserve.

By granting a certificate of need for Smith Village to implement its major remodeling and small expansion plan, you are ensuring the vitality of a not-for-profit organization that has served senior citizens since 1924.

Smith Village consistently earns top rating for its short-term stay rehab and skilled care programs: a 5-star CMS rating and recognition as one of Chicago's top 19 nursing homes according to the most recent survey published by *U.S. News & World Report*.

Please support one of the finest, most reliable resources for older adults in our community by authorizing Smith Village to rehabilitate and revitalize its skilled nursing care wing.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Cunningham", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Bill Cunningham
State Senator