CITY

OF

QUINCY

KYLE A. MOORE MAYOR

CITY HALL - - 730 MAINE QUINCY, IL 62301-4056 (217) 228-4545

July 15, 2019

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RECEIV

Ms. Courtney Avery Administrator

HEALTH FACULTIES & SERVICES REMIEW BOARD

Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board 525 W. Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor Springfield, IL 62761

Re:

Support for CON of Blessing Hospital /

Relocation and Modernization of Existing Surgery Center -

Dear Ms. Avery:

I write as mayor of the City of Quincy to express my support for the Certificate of Need application filed by Blessing Hospital to allow for the relocation and modernization of its existing ambulatory surgical treatment center in our city. With your agency's recent approval of a second surgery center in Quincy, it is only appropriate that both facilities be fully allowed to compete in the market in updated and appropriately located buildings. I personally wish both surgery centers great success; certainly the existing Blessing ASTC should not be required to compete in the market as a tenant in a building owned by its newly-approved competitor, and in an older facility that needs updating.

The Blessing CON application:

- calls merely for the modernization of existing ORs and patient areas, adding no additional surgical capacity;
- represents a less costly and more efficient alternative for the existing ASTC, in comparison to an indefinite lease arrangement, and will save Blessing significant sums over time; and
- enables Blessing's not-for-profit ownership of the ASTC building, which will make the facility a community asset.

I hope that the Review Board will give appropriate consideration of my support for this CON application, which I believe is warranted for the sake of both competitive fairness and improved health care.

Mayor of Quincy