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STATE OF ILLINOIS
101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ILLINOIS STATE SENATE

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JUL 23 2019

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

JUL 03 2019

JIL TRACY
STATE SENATOR
47TH DISTRICT
SENATE MINORITY WHIP
Email: senatortracy@adams.net

Ms. Courtney Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities & 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:

As the State Senator who represents Quincy and its surrounding areas, I wish to share my support for the Certificate of Need ("CON") application filed by Blessing Hospital to allow for the relocation and modernization of its existing ambulatory surgical treatment center ("ASTC" or "surgery center") in Quincy, Illinois. The Review Board recently approved another health care provider, Quincy Medical Group's application for a new surgery center in Quincy. I'm informed the Blessing ASTC is located in a building owned by Quincy Medical Group that needs updating. I believe both facilities will serve our residents well with access to quality health care.

My reasons for support are as follows:

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 tens of millions of dollars over time;
- enables Blessing's not-for-profit ownership of the ASTC building, which will make the facility a community asset; and
- allows Blessing to engage on a level playing field in the new paradigm of a competitive ASTC market in Quincy.

I hope that the Review Board will give appropriate consideration of this CON application. Our region is fortunate to have Blessing Hospital and Physician Services and Quincy Medical Group to serve the health needs of our communities. I believe this relocation of the Blessing ASTC will be an asset to our access to quality health care.

Respectfully yours,

Jil Tracy