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July 30, 2019

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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

Re: Support for CON of Blessing Hospital / Relocation and Modernization of Existing Surgery Center

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing to you today in support of Blessing Health System's application for an Outpatient Surgery Center in Quincy, Illinois.

For as long as I can remember, Quincy University and Blessing Health System have been partners. For the past twenty years, we have worked tirelessly to educate students to become nurses in our region. We have also had the good fortune to have many students complete internships in the health system. Blessing employees have been readily available to speak on our campus in various classes and their Be Well at Work Clinic have served QU employees and their families in times of sickness and crisis. Together we are working to meet the workforce needs for today and the future.

In addition many of the faculty and staff at both QU and Blessing serve on boards and committees in our town that benefit the mission of both organizations.

The Blessing Health System's ongoing commitment to our area is quite impressive. They have supported educational endeavors, athletic teams, non-profits, and arts organizations among many others. Without the revenue from the proposed surgery center I am afraid that these critical investments in our local economy will cease to exist leaving many organizations floundering.

I would urge the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board to approve this application as the city of Quincy and the entire Tri-State area will greatly benefit.

Sincerely,

Phillip Conover
President Emeritus