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HEALTH FACILITIES & SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

SUPPORT FOR CON 19-029 RELOCATION AND MODERNIZATION OF EXISTING SURGERY CENTER BLESSING HOSPITAL IN QUINCY, IL

PETITION SIGNED BY 29 QUINCY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMBERS

SUBMITTED: AUGUST 27, 2019

ILLINOIS HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

QUINCY-AREA RESIDENTS IN SUPPORT OF RELOCATION AND MODERNIZATION OF BLESSING SURGERY CENTER

August 12, 2019

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

Re:

Support for Blessing Hospital CON 19-029 Proposed Surgery Center

Relocation and Modernization

Dear Ms. Avery:

The undersigned attended one or more of the town hall meetings (August 12 at John Wood Community College, August 13 at Quincy University, and August 15 at the Kroc Center) convened by Blessing Hospital to educate the community, and answer any questions, on the proposed relocation and modernization of the Blessing Ambulatory Surgery Treatment Center ("ASTC"). We wish to inform the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board ("Review Board") of our support.

Blessing's CON application:

- calls simply for the modernization of existing operating rooms and patient areas, adding no additional surgical capacity;
- represents a less costly, more efficient alternative for Blessing's existing ASTC in comparison to an indefinite lease arrangement – and will save Blessing tens of millions of dollars over time;
- enables Blessing's non-profit ownership of the ASTC building, making the facility a community asset;
- allows Blessing to engage on a level playing field in the newly competitive ASTC marketplace in Quincy;
- protects an existing source of revenue by enabling Blessing's ASTC to remain viable that supports safety net services at the hospital; and
- provides a more up-to-date and accessible ASTC for Quincy-area health care consumers.

For these reasons, we support this proposed ASTC relocation and modernization, and we hope the Review Board approves CON 19-029.

Respectfully,

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Letter of Support – Blessing Hospital CON 19-029

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