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September 16, 2019

## VIA FEDEX

Courtney Avery
Board Administrator
Health Facilities and Services Review Board
Illinois Department of Public Health
525 West Jefferson Street, Second Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761



Re: Encompass Rehabilitation Hospital of Libertyville, Project #19-036 - Letter of Support – Lake County Board Chairman - Sandy Hart and Lake County Vice Chairman - Mary Ross Cunningham

Dear Ms. Avery:

Enclosed please find a letter of support for Project #19-036, Encompass Rehabilitation Hospital of Libertyville from Lake County Board Chairman - District 13, Sandy Hart and Lake County Vice Chairman - District 9, Mary Ross Cunningham.

If you have any questions or need any additional information regarding the project, please feel free to contact me via phone at 312-212-4967 or via email at <a href="mailto:JMorado@beneschlaw.com">JMorado@beneschlaw.com</a>. You can also contact my colleague Mark J. Silberman, via phone at 312-212-4952 or via email at <a href="mailto:MSilberman@beneschlaw.com">MSilberman@beneschlaw.com</a> with any questions.

Very truly yours,

BENESCH, FRIEDLANDER, COPLAN & ARONOFF LLP

Juan Morado, Jr.

JM:mls Enclosure

cc: George Roate, Project Reviewer



## RECEIVED

SEP 17 2019

HEALTH FACILITIES & SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

18 North County Street - 10th Floor Waukegan, Illinois 60085-4351 Phone 847 377 2300 Fax 847 360 7322

Web http://www.lakocountyil.gov

August 25, 2019

Ms. Courtney Avery
Board Administrator
Health Facilities & Services Review Board
Illinois Department of Public Health
525 W. Jefferson Street, Second Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: Support for CON Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Libertyville, LLC

Dear Ms. Avery:

On behalf of the members of the Lake County Board, in its capacity as the Chairman of the County Board, I am writing to express our support for Encompass Health's Certificate of Need application to build a free-standing Inpatient Rehabilitation Hospital in Libertyville, Illinois.

Currently, Lake County lacks the necessary post-acute continuum of care that a rehabilitation hospital can offer for those qualifying patients who suffer from stroke, brain injuries, major trauma, hip fractures and other qualifying conditions. In fact, the Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board (IHFPB), Region HSA8 identifies a need for inpatient rehabilitation beds in Lake County. The citizens of Lake County have to travel long distances often to receive acute inpatient rehabilitative hospital care, and they deserve to have these services provided closer to home so that their physicians and caregivers can participate in their recovery process without the hardship of a daily long distance travel.

The importance of providing the patient and their family an opportunity to receive the intense, comprehensive rehabilitation therapies and nursing care, in a high level hospital such as Encompass Health, cannot be underestimated. Their advanced technologies and team of talented nurses, physical medicine and rehabilitation physicians, physical, occupational and speech therapists provide clinical outcomes that surpass those in the industry. A collaborative post-acute care partners is critically important to foster the continuum of care necessary for those patients described above.

In addition to the economic benefits of providing health care related jobs and expertise, educational opportunities and tax revenues, the addition of an inpatient rehabilitation hospital will further expand our healthcare footprint in Lake County, Illinois. As a County Board, our mission is to promote access to quality, comprehensive healthcare for our residents, and to work with providers to build world class healthcare resources.

Therefore, we enthusiastically support the technological advances and talent Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Libertyville, LLC will have to offer. Their reputation is well known nationally and their presence in our community will be greatly welcomed and appreciated by the residents of Lake County, Illinois. We strongly encourage the IHFPB's approval for this important Certificate of Need application.

Sincerely,

Sandy Hart

Lake County Board Chairman District 13 Board Member Mary Ross Cunningham Lake County Vice Chairman

District 9 Board Member