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September 25, 2019

RECEIVED

SEP 30 2019

HEALTH FACILITIES  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

**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 – Juan Alzate, MD, Robert Erickson, MD and Bradley Bagan, MD of American Center for Spine & Neurosurgery**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Enclosed please find a letter of support for Project #19-036, Encompass Rehabilitation Hospital of Libertyville from Juan Alzate, MD, Robert Erickson, MD and Bradley Bagan, MD of American Center for Spine & Neurosurgery.

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 [JMorado@beneschlaw.com](mailto:JMorado@beneschlaw.com). You can also contact my colleague Mark J. Silberman, via phone at 312-212-4952 or via email at [MSilberman@beneschlaw.com](mailto:MSilberman@beneschlaw.com) with any questions.

Very truly yours,

BENESCH, FRIEDLANDER,  
COPLAN & ARONOFF LLP

Juan Morado, Jr.

JM:mls  
Enclosure

cc: George Roate, Project Reviewer

THE AMERICAN CENTER FOR  
SPINE & NEUROSURGERY

Excellence in Minimally Invasive Care

712 S. Milwaukee Avenue, Libertyville, IL 60048

Toll-free: (855) 526-1100 Fax: (847) 362-3351

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September 12, 2019

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

Re: Certificate of Need; Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Libertyville, LLC

Dear Ms. Avery:

We, the neurosurgeons of American Center for Spine and Neurosurgery are writing in support of Encompass Health's Certificate of Need for an acute rehab hospital in Libertyville, Illinois. As practicing physicians specializing in neurosurgery, we work with hospitals in Lake County. We are the main provider of neurosurgery in Lake County covering a total of over 500 inpatient beds, including 50 ICU beds.

Approval of this CON will provide patients with diagnoses of stroke, brain injury, and spinal injury, as well as trauma patients, a cost-effective rehab treatment facility in the local area. This patient population has many health problems, including difficulty ambulating, fatigue, balance deficits, joint pain, stiffness and neuropathy. All these issues contribute to a decrease in their independence as this impacts their activities of daily living. Physical and occupational therapies are helpful, but there are those instances that require further intensive rehabilitative services to assist the patient to regain as much functional independence as possible.

The challenge then becomes where to send the patient for inpatient rehab care. From our experience, the only place to service these patients is downtown Chicago or Milwaukee, Wisconsin, which is too far for families and patients to travel.

For those reasons, we fully support and encourage you to grant a Certificate of Need for the Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital, LLC to serve the Lake County area.

Sincerely yours,



Juan Alzate, MD



Robert Erickson, MD



Bradley Bagan, MD