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Kam Buckner

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September 27, 2019

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

Re: Provident Hospital of Cook County
Certificate of Need Application

Dear Ms. Avery,

I submit this letter in strong support of Cook County Health's (CCH) Certificate of Need application to construct a modernized replacement Provident Hospital facility.

The existing Provident Hospital building is outdated and requires significant financial investment to modernize. Building a replacement Provident Hospital facility with expanded inpatient and outpatient services will allow Cook County Health to better invest limited financial resources while continuing to provide patients with comprehensive, high-quality healthcare and increasing access to care close to where they live. It will also eliminate the need for many existing Cook County Health patients to travel to Stroger Hospital to receive more complex care.

I am encouraged by Cook County Health and the Cook County Bureau of Asset Management's commitment to minority- and woman-owned business participation goals as well as community hiring goals for the project which will create economic development opportunities in the surrounding community. I am also encouraged by Cook County Health's commitment to keep the existing Provident Hospital building open until the modernized Provident Hospital building opens.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kam Buckner".

State Representative Kam Buckner