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SENATOR DAVE SYVERSON
ILLINOIS SENATE – 35TH DISTRICT
DEPUTY SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

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RECEIVED**MAR 17 2020****HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

March 11, 2020

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

Re: Forest City Dialysis (Proj. No. 19-055)

Dear Ms. Avery,

I write to support DaVita Forest City Dialysis in its efforts for improved access to home dialysis services for residents of Rockford and the surrounding area. Specifically, I ask that you approve DaVita's Forest City Dialysis request to add a transitional care unit to improve access and education relating to home dialysis services for this community.

DaVita is a national leader in its commitment to home dialysis training and support and clinical quality and innovation. In particular, the Forest City in-center hemodialysis clinic complements the large home dialysis training and support program that DaVita operates in the Rockford area. Currently, there are about 120 patients enrolled in the Rockford area home dialysis program. DaVita is significantly invested in supporting all patients who opt for the home modalities to be successful with this method.

With this proposal, DaVita is piloting a dialysis home training transitional care unit model in Rockford. The home dialysis transitional care unit will allow Forest City to have a four station care pod dedicated to patients who have opted for home dialysis or are considering this modality as well as patients who "crash" onto dialysis with little to no nephrologist care prior to initiating dialysis. Patients will receive more intensive, high-touch centered introduction to dialysis for three to four weeks. This program is intended to reduce hospitalizations during the first 90 days of treatment and to enhance modality education to promote both home dialysis modalities. This program's focus on home dialysis is consistent with the current administration's Presidential Executive Order on Advancing American Kidney Health to improve the lives of kidney patients.

I respectfully ask that the Health Facilities and Service Review Board approve DaVita's application to add a transitional care unit for home dialysis orientation and education at its Forest City Dialysis clinic and continue to improve access to high quality health care services in Rockford.

Sincerely,

SENATOR DAVE SYVERSON
Deputy Senate Republican Leader