

DISTRICT OFFICE:

STATE OF ILLINOIS BUILDING
200 S. WYMAN, STE. 302
ROCKFORD, IL 61101
815/987-7555
FAX 815/987-7563
E-MAIL: info@senatordavesyverson.com

CAPITOL OFFICE:

105E STATE HOUSE
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62706
217/782-5413



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

COMMITTEES:

REPUBLICAN SPOKESMAN

- HUMAN SERVICES
- INSURANCE
- PUBLIC HEALTH

MEMBER:

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- ENVIRONMENT & CONSERVATION
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JAN 16 2020

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

January 13, 2020

Ms. Debra Savage, Chair
Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson Street, Second Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: Application for Certificate of Need for Mercyhealth Javon Bea Hospital – Rockton Avenue Campus; Establishment of Subacute Care Unit – 17 Beds; Project #19-056

Dear Ms. Savage and Ms. Avery:

I serve in the Illinois Senate and on Mercy Health Corporation's board. I write in my capacity as the Senator representing the 35th District to urge your approval of Mercyhealth's Certificate of Need for Project # 19-056.

Javon Bea Hospital has provided excellent healthcare in the greater Rockford area for over 100 years. The proposed project is consistent with Mercyhealth's vertically integrated services delivery model, which provides a cost-efficient means for delivering healthcare services. The proposed project will also provide much needed services for Rockford's residents. Mercyhealth collaboratively works with a number of skilled nursing and other rehabilitation facilities in the area, several of whom have expressed their support for this project to the board.

The project is appropriately calibrated to meet the community's needs and I do not believe this project an unnecessary duplication of services. Indeed, there is insufficient sub-acute post discharge care in Rockford. Moreover, the services will be provided on Rockford's West Side, which is a federally designated medically underserved area. For my part, I think it commendable that Mercyhealth continues to make investment in the Rockton Avenue campus and seeks to productively repurpose existing space in its buildings.

I thus, urge your thorough consideration and prompt approval of the Mercyhealth's proposed project

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Senator Dave Syverson, written in a cursive style.

SENATOR DAVE SYVERSON
Deputy Senate Republican Leader