

**From:** [Rebecca Kreston](#)  
**To:** [DPH.HFSRB.PublicHearings](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Statement in opposition of mercy closing  
**Date:** Monday, November 2, 2020 1:51:37 PM

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To whom it may concern,

My name is Rebecca Kreston and I am a fourth-year resident physician in the combined emergency medicine and internal medicine program at the University of Illinois Chicago. I'm writing to provide a statement offering my opposition to the potentially devastating closing of Mercy Hospital.

Mercy provides an outsized resource to a vulnerable community in the city of Chicago. I know this firsthand as a physician that has worked in the hospital's emergency room, medical intensive care unit, and obstetric floor. I also work at several other hospitals in the city and I know that the population that seeks care at Mercy is primarily one that is socially and economically vulnerable. To close this hospital, and at this potentially ruinous time during a global pandemic, will only deepen the disparities existing in the community. I urge you to please halt the closure of this hospital and seek opportunities to continue its service to the community at large. It is possible.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Rebecca Kreston, MD MSPH

Sent from my iPhone