

January 25, 2021

Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson, Second Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: Quincy Medical Group Hospital, Project #20-044

Dear Ms. Avery,

My name is Bob Weirather and my wife Judy and I are writing in support of Quincy Medical Group Hospital. We are long term locals to the Iowa and Illinois area. Judy was born and raised in Hamilton, Illinois, and I was born and raised near Keokuk, Iowa. Our experiences with QMG began in 1972 when we moved to Golden, IL and then two years later when we moved to Quincy. Our history spans 49 years in the Quincy area. Our family of three children were reared in Quincy and graduated from Quincy High School.

Our family experiences with the QMG medical staff include: Amjad Ali, MD, John Bozdech, MD, George Crickard, MD, Rishi Ghanekar, MD, Dennis Go, MD, Louis Kim, MD, Anna Levin, MD, Hope Owens, CNP, Pravin Patel, MD, Jane Peterson, CNP, Todd Petty, MD, John Scott, MD, Nathan Seaman, DO, Douglas Sullivant, MD, Robert Weller, MD, Christian Zwick, MD, and many others who have retired or passed.

Our notable medical needs, in no particular order, have included; cataract surgery, pancreatitis, removal of gall bladder, ovarian cyst, artificial aortic valve, coronary artery stent, dermatology, colon rectal growth, and appendicitis. We also depend on QMG to provide testing, analysis, observation, prescribing pharma, recommending other medical professionals, surgery, dietary, and mental health guidance.

QMG's depth and breadth of skilled professionals is vital to us in the Quincy area. We support the addition of a QMG Hospital because patients like us deserve choice and affordable access to the best care available. Our experiences with QMG professionals have assisted us to choose facilities in St. Louis and Springfield. This is very important: QMG is able and willing to direct us to the proper care where ever it maybe.

Our community needs expanded access to high-quality healthcare services and reduced healthcare costs. Our surrounding counties depend on medical services in Quincy. Widespread needs such as those caused by the Covid19 pandemic require flexible, in-depth medical locations with quality care. There will be other outbreaks and emergencies that will overload a single facility.

We also recognize the needs of our older citizens (like us, both 78 years old), growing families, and dependent children. We have our children and grandchildren who use and depend on

Quincy medical care. The immigrant Weirather, two generations ago, began with *18 children* and many of these descendants depend on Quincy for medical services. The addition of QMG Hospital would be a blessing to many, many in our family.

The knowledge expansion and treatment of medical conditions is skyrocketing. Those that can implement these new found technologies must be attracted to Quincy. QMG Hospital will attract better qualified and higher skilled medical professionals. We need to continue to find those competent individuals that find satisfaction of living in a modest surroundings and recruit them to grow with us.

We need to attract new businesses, plus improve and grow existing Quincy businesses, and the new QMG Hospital will help. All levels of local residents want quality medical services that keep up technologically. New businesses that consider moving to Quincy will evaluate the community as a whole including the medical options. A new hospital would be a superior addition.

This is why we encourage you to approve Quincy Medical Group Hospital, Project #20-044 for the betterment of all in our community and to thrive in the future.

Thank you,
Judy and Bob Weirather