



# First Bankers Trust Company, N.A.

Allen W. Shafer  
President / C.E.O.

January 29, 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,

I am writing in opposition of Quincy Medical Group Hospital. We are fortunate to have one healthy hospital dutifully caring for patients in a town of 40,000. Let's not damage it.

Twenty one percent of rural hospitals are already at risk of closing. Opening an additional hospital, during this time, is an unnecessary gamble in a region that does not have a demonstrable need for additional hospital beds. There is no evidence that a model like QMG's proposed hospital has worked in a community where there was already an existing strong hospital.

As of today, both organizations are successful doing what they do, it is unnecessary and risky to duplicate inpatient rooms, including building an additional Emergency Room. QMG is borrowing 100% of the \$61,142,058 in construction and equipment costs, plus an additional \$23,000,000 in startup up costs for a total of \$84,142,058, this is a highly risky undertaking. The future of healthcare is uncertain, this is not the time to jeopardize our existing healthcare system. The worst thing we can do is have QMG fail.

The proposed small-format hospital is not needed. I encourage you to oppose Quincy Medical Group Hospital, project #20-044.

Thank you,

Allen W. Shafer  
President and CEO