

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. The middle of a pandemic is not the time to disrupt an already fragile health care system in this region or to put additional strain on the healthcare safety net.

Twenty one percent of rural hospitals are 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. Our community is already over bedded by at least 75 beds. A second hospital, would not increase choice or quality of care, instead it would strain an already limited talent pool and resources, diminishing our ability to receive consistent, high quality care.

Blessing serves everyone, regardless of their income and ability to pay. They don't turn anyone away, they never have and never will. They combine the latest technology with a personal touch to deliver high quality, patient centered care, close to home. outside accountability and shamefully with no true sense of duty to treat charity and Medicaid patients. The proposed second hospital lacks community governance this will allow QMG to operate without outside accountability and no true sense of duty to treat charity and Medicaid patients.

The proposed second hospital is not needed and would only add stress to our region's healthcare system. I encourage you to oppose Quincy Medical Group Hospital, project #20-044.

Thank you,

Sharon Hieber
Director Radiology, Blessing Hospital

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

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing in opposition of Quincy Medical Group Hospital. The middle of a pandemic does not seem like the time to disrupt an already fragile health care system in this region or to put additional strain on the healthcare safety net.

Twenty one percent of rural hospitals are 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. Our community is already over bedded by at least 75 beds. A second hospital, does not increase choice or quality of care. Instead it would strain an already limited talent pool and resources, diminishing our ability to receive consistent, high quality care. That doesn't seem like it's really helping the community.

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The proposed second hospital is not needed and would only add stress to our region's healthcare system. I encourage you to oppose Quincy Medical Group Hospital, project #20-044.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ananda Smith". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ananda" being more prominent and the last name "Smith" following in a similar style.

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

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing in opposition of Quincy Medical Group Hospital. Blessing Hospital has sufficient capacity to provide Hospital Services to the residents in the area. Opening an additional hospital will is not conducive to collaboration to meet patient needs.

Twenty one percent of rural hospitals are 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. Our community is already over bedded by at least 75 beds. A second hospital, would not increase choice or quality of care, instead it would strain an already limited talent pool and resources, diminishing our ability to receive consistent, high quality care.

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Thank you,


Julie Shepard

Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson, Second Floor
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Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing in opposition of Quincy Medical Group Hospital. The middle of a pandemic is not the time to disrupt an already fragile healthcare system in this region or to put additional strain on the healthcare safety net.

I am concerned that a second, unnecessary hospital will have an adverse impact on the over 17,000 people in Adams County who rely on Medicaid for their healthcare. Blessing serves everyone, regardless of their income and ability to pay. They don't turn anyone away, they never have and never will. The second hospital does not guarantee that those in need will receive care.

Blessing Health System has been a strong leader in our community and was on the frontlines in battle against the COVID-19 pandemic. Blessing has worked tirelessly over the past 11 months to keep all of our communities safe and healthy. Because of their deep connections to the community and relying on their first in class experts, Blessing acted quickly and smartly. They renovated their facility to create 87 rooms with the ability to care for up to 130 patients requiring negative pressure isolation, they also set up a hotline staffed by registered nurses who help callers with questions about COVID-19, including discussing any symptoms they might be experiencing and they also stood up a drive-thru facility for COVID-19 testing.

I worked at St. Mary Hospital in 1993 when the decision was made to sell it to Blessing Hospital because a second hospital was not surviving financially. The duplication of services was unnecessary at that time for our community size. Quincy Medical Group is now working to duplicate those services again and I don't believe they are financially able to provide the services Blessing can. Please don't take us back in time. Thank you.

The proposed small-format hospital is not needed and would only add stress to our region's healthcare system. I encourage you to oppose Quincy Medical Group Hospital, project #20-044.

Thank you,
Amy Krohn
Blessing Hospital
Quincy, Illinois 62301

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The proposed small-format hospital is not needed and would only add stress to our region's healthcare system. I encourage you to oppose Quincy Medical Group Hospital, project #20-044.

Thank you,
Bj Berhorst
Blessing Physician Services
Canton, MO 63435

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The proposed small-format hospital is not needed and would only add stress to our region's healthcare system. I encourage you to oppose Quincy Medical Group Hospital, project #20-044.

Thank you,
Caitlin Memken
Blessing Hospital
Quincy, IL 62301

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We do not need a second hospital in our community, we do not have the population to appropriately support it. Twenty one percent of rural hospitals are at risk of closing. Opening a second hospital, during this time, is an unnecessary gamble in a region that does not have a demonstrable need for additional hospital beds. A second hospital would not increase choice or quality of care, instead it would strain an already limited talent pool and resources, diminishing our ability to receive consistent, high quality care.

Several years ago we were told we did not need 2 hospitals in Quincy, because we were duplicating services . At that time we closed a very good hospital named St. Mary's. We do not need to start duplicating services again in our community.

The proposed small-format hospital is not needed and would only add stress to our region's healthcare system. I encourage you to oppose Quincy Medical Group Hospital, project #20-044.

Thank you,
Cheryl Reardon
Blessing Hospital
Quincy, Illinois 62301

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Quincy IL had two hospitals until 1993 when St Mary's merged with Blessing Hospital. Since then, the population hasn't grown to justify another hospital. Blessing Hospital has consistently made many improvements to their infrastructure to stay cost-competitive, focusing on high-quality patient-centered care, adding patient beds when needed, updating technology and giving back to the community in millions of dollars each year. Blessing serves everyone, regardless of what they are able to pay or their income, working to keep people close to home for comprehensive and preventative care. The proposed Physician-only Board 28-bed Hospital appears to be for the low acuity patients that lean towards elective procedures and surgeries, including labor and deliveries. In healthcare, this could be considered the practice of creaming which has both social and statistical consequences. For example, it is estimated that \$50 million in revenue would not be available for Blessing Hospital's services.

The proposed small-format hospital is not needed and would only add stress to our region's healthcare system. I encourage you to oppose Quincy Medical Group Hospital, project #20-044.

Thank you,
Mary Ripper
Blessing Hospital
Quincy, IL 62301