

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 healthcare system in this region or to put additional strain on the healthcare safety net.

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.

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 feel that a second hospital would not be beneficial too our community at all. With the amount of beds the QMG hospital will have it is just a waste of time and money. That time and money could go towards something else in our town that our community would actually benefit from.

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,
Abbie Tanner
Blessing Hospital
Ursa, IL 62376

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Being a Quincy native, I care very deeply about this community. I moved back to Quincy after living several years in other major metro areas to raise my family here because I loved growing up here and want to provide the same for our son. Quincy, and the surrounding smaller communities, are not growing at a rate that warrants an additional hospital. Our country has been through so much in the last couple of years resulting in a huge economic downturn. Locally, many smaller business have had to close, which has effected so many families in our area. Opening an additional hospital in a small community like ours will only put an even bigger economic strain on our community members. I hope that the review board takes our community's concerns seriously and takes the time to consider the negative long term impact that the opening of a second hospital would have on our community before making a decision.

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Thank you,
Anyia Thurm
Blessing Physician Services
Quincy, IL 62301

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Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
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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.

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Thank you,
Audrey Bringer
Blessing Hospital
LaGrange, MO 63448

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Thank you,
Betty Starman
Blessing Hospital
Mendonb, IL 652351

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I am all for Q.M.G to start new Hospital in Quincy Illinois , Quincy needs to have more then one hospital to chose from. I am all for this application to be approved for Q.M.G

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,
Dennis Leasman
Blessing Hospital
Quincy, Illinois 62301

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Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
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Thank you,
Jason Hetzler
Blessing Hospital
Quincy, Illinois 62301

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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. They are the most advanced medical center in 100-mile radius.

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I work in the Blessing Diabetes Center and have seen first hand the number of Medicaid patient referrals we receive from Quincy Medical Group for our services. Quincy Medical Group has diabetes services as well. They will not see them because of a lack of reimbursement from Medicaid. We rarely see patients referred that have commercial or Medicare coverage unless the patient specifically requests to be seen by us. I feel all patients deserve care no matter what financial state they are in. I feel blessed to work for an organization that recognizes the importance of caring for all.

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,
Jennifer Frericks
Blessing Hospital
Quincy, IL 62301

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Springfield, IL 62761

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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 small-format hospital, would not increase choice or quality of care, instead it would strain an already limited talented pool and resources, diminishing our ability to receive consistent, high quality care.

I joined the Blessing Health System almost 11 years ago. I came from a Health Care organization in Southeast Iowa that was also a not for profit hospital that could no longer remain independent due to financial loss and was forced to sell to a for profit organization, eliminating the benefits a not-for-profit organization provides to the region in addition to significantly reducing the workforce also having negative impact on the community. I had been in the organization for 36 years. One of the primary resources eliminated was treatment for behavioral health. Blessing Hospital has and continues to provide services to the region as our mission is to improve the health of our communities, regardless of ability to pay. Blessing has a long history of providing quality of care to this region. The approval of the QMG small hospital will result in a significant threat to continue the service to many of the residents in this region. The population in this region does not support the addition of the beds being requested by QMG and will only add to the already significant shortage of a qualified health care workforce.

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,
Joellen Randall
Blessing Corporate Services
Quincy, IL 62305

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Springfield, IL 62761

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Thank you,
Kathi Moore
Blessing Hospital
Quincy, Illinois 62301

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Thank you,
Kenny Robeen
Illini Community Hospital
pittsfield, il 62363

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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 application for a second hospital. As the Emergency Department Medical Director I would like to add my additional concerns to the addition of another Emergency Department in our community. As outlined in the CON, the proposed Quincy Medical Group Emergency Department will not manage any cardiac, behavioral health, trauma, or stroke care. As this committee knows; trauma, cardiac and stroke care are all critical care medical problems. These require the upmost timeliness in evaluation and treatment. It's difficult to understand how to justify a second hospital that doesn't serve high need patients. Should a patient decide to seek care for these serious medical emergencies at the QMG Emergency Department, there will be significant delay in lifesaving evaluation and treatments. In many instances, but especially for stroke patients, seconds matter. This will have a profound and potentially deadly outcome for said patient as the QMG Emergency Department would then require to arrange transfer to the Blessing Emergency Department for these treatments. For the behavior health patient who presents to the QMG Emergency Department the risk of not having appropriate emergency behavioral health rooms and staff will put the patient at additional self-harm or death. The QMG Emergency Department would not increase choice or quality of care, instead it would strain an already limited talent pool and resources, diminishing our region's ability to receive consistent, high quality care and needlessly put patients in real danger. I strongly oppose the addition of the QMG Hospital for these reasons and urge you not to approve their CON. Thanks, Scott Hough MD, FACEP Medical Director of Emergency Services Blessing Hospital

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,
Scott Hough
Blessing Hospital
Quincy, IL 62305

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Thank you,
Stacy Raftery
Hannibal Clinic
Hannibal, MO 63401

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Thank you,
Tim Kincaid
Blessing Hospital
Quincy, Illinois 62305