

**May 26, 2021**

**Dear Members of the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board:**

Once again, I take (in years gone by the quote would have been “pen in hand,” but let us roll with the times) fingertips to keyboard, to admonish you for your tremendous lack of vision and your apparent bias towards Blessing Hospital. Lest we forget, all that glitters is NOT Blessing Hospital. I shall attempt to be brief and not overly sarcastic:

1. If I remember correctly “duplication of services” was one of your major objections to the QMG Cancer Institute and Surgery Center. That does not have any more validity now than it did then. “Duplication of services” does present a situation called “CHOICE.” I would not seek to deny you CHOICE in your source of medical care, so why is it that you wish to obstruct mine and the several thousands who abide in Quincy and the surrounding area? Why can’t we have a CHOICE?

2. The concept of the small intimate hospital as proposed by QMG hearkens back to England and the mid-1800s when cottage hospitals were created--literally in cottages. There the local people could get care in familiar surroundings and be quite comfortable. If some major procedure was needed by the patient, then a trip to the closest major facility was made. I do not think QMG plans to do transplants or any other major surgery at the proposed QMG Hospital. I believe the plan is for QMG to provide care for small commonplace procedures. This would free Blessing Hospital’s beds, facilities, and staff to devote themselves to much more complicated issues and procedures.


3. Quite frankly I do not give a razzle-dazzle about Blessing’s bed count. You should have been here a few months ago! I think if Blessing were being honest, they would agree that a few extra hospital beds at that time would have come in very handy! QMG Hospital could have provided

a great place for the lighter cases of COVID-19 to still receive supervised care while Blessing took care of the challenge of keeping people with the most serious conditions alive. And, referencing our pandemic, if you think that COVID-19 is the last pandemic we will ever see, well, let me just repeat my initial observation concerning your lack of vision.

4. And this is much the same argument I sent you when you started in blocking the Cancer Institute. EVERYWHERE I go in the city of Quincy, I trip over Blessing Hospital! Empty lots owned by Blessing Hospital thus indicating their future plans for expansion. Blessing is a fine facility, but it does not have to be the ONLY facility. Why don't I ever see any of their expansion ideas being shut down by you? I was amused when Blessing opened the drive-through clinic in the old Sears Tire Shop. A Tire Shop??? How about that monster Blessing clinic at 48<sup>th</sup> and Maine? Since when did that not become a duplication of services offered at QMG? I never hear one word of argument from you against any idea that originates at Blessing Hospital.

5. One brief, final observation: Did you read the April article in *The Quincy Herald-Whig*? Blessing is MORE expensive. Ponder that for just a few moments. MORE EXPENSIVE. Please remember that I am a tax-paying citizen of the great state of Illinois, and your job is to consider what MY needs are—not the needs of Blessing Hospital.

Thank you once again for your attention,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Carol Y. Mohr". The signature is fluid and extends to the right with a long, sweeping underline.

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copies to QMG; Governor Pritzker, various and assorted state representatives