

March 30, 2022

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 support of Quincy Medical Group Hospital because, as an employee of Quincy Medical Group (QMG), I believe it will allow us to provide patients with a choice and affordable access to the best care available.

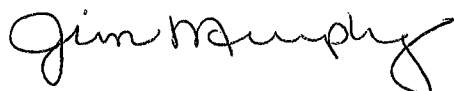
I recently transitioned from local government where I had financial oversight over the entities self-funded health insurance program. This oversight provided me with significant amount of knowledge regarding regional cost of healthcare. US Representative Darin LaHood stated truthfully in his letter "the best way to increase patient access and drive down medical costs is to increase competition in healthcare." Having analyzed healthcare data for the past eight years, it was easy to spot trends in patient outcomes and healthcare costs. One did not have to look very hard to see where there was competition, patient costs were significantly reduced without sacrificing patient outcomes. The data also showed these employees where leaving the Quincy to seek out innovative lower cost healthcare services in other communities.

Quincy and the surrounding area has many excellent healthcare professionals. What the Quincy Medical Group Hospital will bring is that much needed competition and innovation leading to a reduction in healthcare costs for our community. Instead of our residents driving numerous hours seeking lower healthcare costs, the hospital and birthing center projects will provide Quincy and area communities a reprieve from the rising cost of healthcare.

QMG has cared for families and the community for nearly 85 years. I am proud of the healthcare that we provide at QMG *and*, with more than 1,000 employees and 18 existing practice sites across three states, we provide care where *it's* needed most.

QMG Hospital will help improve outcomes and ensure more options for affordable access to the care patients need. I encourage you to approve Quincy Medical Group Hospital, Project #20-044.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long, sweeping underline.