



April 4, 2022

David Fox, Member
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, Second floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: Letter of Support
Project No. 20-044, Quincy Medical Group Hospital
Project No. 21-029, Quincy Medical Group Birth Center

Dear Mr. Fox:

I am the Chief Physician Executive of Duly Health and Care ("Duly") and Co-Chairman of its Board of Directors. I am writing to express Duly's enthusiastic support for the proposed Quincy Medical Group Hospital and Quincy Medical Group Birth Center projects and to ask for their approval.

Duly and QMG entered into a partnership in early December 2021 with a shared goal of increasing access to affordable, patient-centric, physician-directed care. QMG has a long-standing history of providing high-quality care, and its top-of-the-range physician and patient satisfaction scores (at the 95th percentile) are impressive and inspiring. QMG's high satisfaction scores reflect its strong culture, which has allowed QMG to recruit and retain top talent and resulted in quality outcomes in patient care. Duly was also attracted to QMG's established foundation, outstanding reputation, and proven success as an innovative, leading healthcare provider in West Central Illinois. Duly and QMG share a vision to transform healthcare by creating new pipelines for collaboration that empower physicians and team members to reimagine the delivery of care. We are excited to work with QMG to create an unrivaled patient experience and raise the standard for quality, physician-directed care. Our partnership will result in significant benefits to both organizations and the communities we serve.

Duly believes in QMG's ongoing efforts to transform the delivery of care in the tri-states through enhancing the ability of physicians to carefully coordinate and ensure that care is delivered in the most appropriate and cost-effective setting possible. The proposed QMG Hospital and QMG Birth Center, in conjunction with QMG's established, successful facilities and service lines, will allow QMG to fully deploy its physician-driven, patient-centric, integrated care model and manage the full spectrum of care for their patients. The projects also seek to address health disparities in the region and to improve health equity by ensuring that all residents, especially vulnerable and underrepresented populations, have access to quality, local, affordable patient-centric care.

The time is right for the proposed innovative models to be deployed and who better to lead these efforts than a distinguished physician group with a proven track record of success.

Please approve the QMG Hospital and QMG Birth Center projects.

Sincerely,



Paul Merriek, MD

cc: Members of the Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board