

March 23, 2022

Dr. Stacy Grundy, Member Members of the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board 525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor Springfield, IL 62761

Re: Quincy Medical Group Hospital - Project # 20-044
Quincy Medical Group Birth Center - Project # 21-029
Letter of Support

Dear Dr. Grundy and Members:

I write today to ask you to consider supporting the proposed Quincy Medical Group Hospital and Quincy Medical Group Birth Center.

As State Senatorfrom Illinois' 48th District, I serve on the Health Appropriations Committee and was proud to recently sponsor Illinois' Health Care and Human Service Reform Act (now reflected as Public Act 102-0004), that will tangibly expand health equity and establish the Anti-Racism Commission focused on eliminating systemic racism. I have also served on the Board of Directors for various health-focused organizations, and was a founding board member of the SIU Federally Qualified Health Center. I currently serve on the Sangamon County Board of Health.

I have focused my entire career working to enhance the lives of Illinoisans, especially those who reside in vulnerable communities and that includes improving access to quality, affordable healthcare. My passion for improving healthcare and public health is why I'm providing this letter today.

I strongly support Quincy Medical Group's efforts to improve the delivery of healthcare in Western Illinois and provide affordable high-quality healthcare options close to home. This mission aligns with my own vision for Illinois. I also applaud Quincy Medical Group's efforts to promote health equity by improving maternal health outcomes and empowering women to make their own informed healthcare choices.

The Quincy Medical Group Hospital and Quincy Medical Group Birth Center, in addition to Quincy Medical Group's other facilities, will allow Quincy Medical Group to provide its patients with a fuller range of high-quality care, resulting in greater access and beneficial effects for residents of Western Illinois. The projects also support the State's obligation to restrain swelling healthcare costs and, by providing critical competition, are expected to noticeably lower the cost of care, especially the excessive costs of maternal care.

As you do your review, please consider the important ways these projects would expand access to affordable, high-quality healthcare and promote health equity. You and the board have an important task and I ask you to evaluate the merits of the proposed projects and consider the healthcare interests of residents in the region. I hope you will ultimately agree that these projects can facilitate greater access to care, cut costs and improve patient choice.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Wy Furner

Doris Turner

Member of the Illinois Senate