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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,

My name is Charles Newton and I serve as the CEO and Administrator of Good Samaritan Home of Quincy. On behalf of Good Samaritan, I am writing a letter of neutrality for the Quincy Medical Group (QMG) Hospital project #20-044.

As a provider of senior care, we rely on both QMG and Blessing to provide quality care to our residents. As we begin to come out of the pandemic, we have only just begun vaccinating the Quincy community against COVID-19. I remain hopeful that the end of pandemic is near, but we don't yet know how long it will take for our community to fully recover from the impact of the pandemic.

Good Samaritan is able to provide high quality senior care because of our dedicated and expert staff. We expend a lot of time and effort in our recruitment efforts to ensure appropriate staffing levels for a 24/7 operation. We question the impact this project may have on an already strained talent pool and resources, possibly diminishing our ability to give consistent, high quality care.

Good Samaritan believes that our region has excellent access to high quality care in both QMG and Blessing. Right now, we ought to be singularly focused on ensuring all members of our community continue to receive the care they need. The pandemic has laid bare the existing health disparities in our communities. Our shared mission needs to be focused on ensuring that the most vulnerable among us have the supports they need to get and stay healthy. While we question the effect a second hospital will have on our existing healthcare system, we encourage the Board to review the application on its merits.

I believe that supporting each entity to continue doing what they do best is what is in the best interest of our community. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Charles Newton
CEO/Administrator

Good Samaritan Home of Quincy