



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

June 8, 2021

Ms. Courtney Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W Jefferson St, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Administrator Avery:

I write regarding the pending partnership agreement between OSF HealthCare and Kindred Healthcare in Peoria, Illinois to provide comprehensive physical rehabilitation services. I support the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board's review process and appreciate the board members' expertise and ability to examine the merits of the application, evaluate the proposal's ability to meet required statutory criteria for consideration, and look at the local need for additional medical services in the Central Illinois region.

As we work to find ways to address the rising costs of healthcare, move forward from the COVID-19 pandemic, and look to the future of access to high quality healthcare, we must support and encourage partnerships like this to provide full, local access to services in an efficient manner. Bringing the rehabilitation services provided by OSF HealthCare into the same building as the long-term acute care at Greater Peoria Specialty Hospital will allow for synergies in staffing and efficiencies in care delivery for both rehabilitation and long-term acute care patients.

I support community efforts across my congressional district and the State of Illinois to increase access, promote robust patient resources, lower healthcare costs, and create positive economic growth. I believe approval of this agreement will assist with these efforts. Thank you for your full and fair consideration of the healthcare interests in the Peoria and Central Illinois community. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me or my District Director, Brad Stotler, at (309)671-7027.

Sincerely,

Darin LaHood
Member of Congress