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Commissioner Scott Britton
14th District

RECEIVED

July 26, 2021

AUG 04 2021

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

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

Re: Support Letter for NorthShore CON Application (Project Number. 21-016)

Dear Ms. Avery:

Thank you for taking the time to review this timely and important application to improve access to critical health care in the NorthShore. As a Cook County Commissioner representing affected communities and a member of the Health and Hospitals Committee of the Cook County Board, I work every day to ensure access to affordable, quality, and timely health care for every resident across the County.

I am pleased to offer my enthusiastic support for NorthShore University HealthSystem's CON application to enhance its Glenbrook Hospital campus in northern Cook County by constructing a new cardiovascular pavilion. I am inspired that NorthShore continues to seek ways to enhance its invaluable life-saving services to this community.

Cardiovascular disease continues to be a leading cause of death in the US and the communities served by NorthShore are included in that grim statistic. A recent NorthShore Community Health Needs Assessment found that chronic risk factors, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and stroke to be among the top nine priority health needs of the community. Preventative health care, early detection, and timely mitigation are critical to cardiovascular health – especially for vulnerable seniors who are most susceptible. The number of residents between 65 and 84 years old is projected to double by 2040, according to GO TO 2040, and NorthShore's service areas are among the 25 townships in Illinois with higher proportions of seniors. As such, this upgrade is an imperative.

The health system's plan will enhance community-based cardiovascular programs for residents in the northern Cook County region and beyond. The new cardiovascular pavilion will improve

access to cardiovascular screening, prevention programs, and chronic disease management which will promote early detection for preventable diseases. The upgraded facilities will also offer minimally invasive therapies, which are fundamental to a quick return to independent living and wellness despite cardiovascular health issues.

The NorthShore is prepared to make a significant investment in the technology required for this program. Cardiovascular technology has rapidly evolved in recent years as medical professionals have developed improved surgical interventions for peripheral artery disease. NorthShore intends to deploy those new procedures and will hire additional vascular surgeons and support staff to practice at the new pavilion.

NorthShore's Cardiovascular Institute currently offers more than 16 subspecialty programs across cardiology, cardiovascular surgery, vascular surgery, and related cardiovascular services. Approval of this application will enable NorthShore to continue providing high-quality care and focus on the needs of the communities it serves.

Thank you for the opportunity to add my unequivocal endorsement of NorthShore's Certificate of Need application.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Scott Britton", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Scott Britton
14th District Cook County Commissioner