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July 26, 2021

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

RECEIVED

AUG 04 2021

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

RE: NorthShore University HealthSystem – Cardiovascular Institute Modernization
CON Permit Application No. 21-016

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am writing to express my full support of NorthShore University HealthSystem's Certificate of Need application to centralize its cardiovascular services with the construction of a new Cardiovascular Institute (CVI) at NorthShore Glenbrook Hospital in Glenview.

This important and strategic decision is based on the insights from NorthShore cardiologists, and cardiac and vascular surgeons. Further, it comes after a thorough review of all of our procedure spaces across our system. We have placed special focus on technology improvements and current space limitations, and as such determined that building a new facility is the best option for our mission to deliver world-class cardiovascular care to our patients and communities.

According to the CDC, cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in the United States with one person dying every 36 seconds from this disease. This sobering figure amounts to 655,000 American deaths each year. Cardiovascular disease also has a disproportionate impact on communities of color and those vulnerable to the social determinants of health. My colleagues and I believe that expanding NorthShore's program at Glenbrook Hospital is vital to helping address the cardiovascular needs of the communities served by NorthShore.

We launched our CVI in 2015, and now offers more than 16 programs across cardiology, cardiovascular surgery and vascular surgery and medicine. A new, centralized institute will allow NorthShore to make significant investments in creating state-of-the-art facilities that will further enhance the quality of cardiovascular care delivered, optimize patient outcomes through the latest innovative and customized treatment options and breakthrough research, and broaden patient access as a whole for treatment of cardiovascular disease.

I am excited about this critical opportunity to create meaningful, transformative healthcare for all patients now and into the future; and greatly appreciate your deep consideration. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Gregory Mishkel MD MBA