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**ILLINOIS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**JENNIFER GONG-GERSHOWITZ**  
REPRESENTATIVE  
17TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

*Chairperson:*  
Judiciary - Civil Committee

*Chairperson:*  
Immigration and  
Human Rights Committee

*Member:*  
Mental Health and  
Addiction Committee

*Member:*  
Energy and  
Environment Committee

July 20th, 2021

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

**RECEIVED**

AUG 04 2021

**HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

RE: Project 21-16: NorthShore Cardiovascular Institute

Dear Ms. Avery:

As a member of the Illinois House of Representatives, representing the 17<sup>th</sup> District, I submit this letter in support of NorthShore University HealthSystem's application for a Certificate of Need at Glenbrook Hospital. I am heavily invested in ensuring quality health care for my constituents. NorthShore University HealthSystem is a major contributor to health and wellness in my district and well known as a comprehensive system providing advanced medical and surgical care for the community.

This has been a long and difficult year for so many in Illinois. Working to stem suffering from the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent economic downturn has been a top priority in Springfield. We created new programs to aid families and small businesses who unexpectedly lost financial stability. Millions of vaccines have been distributed around the state and Illinois is getting closer to a full reopening. The COVID-19 pandemic has called attention to an existing and systemic problem: health care is not universally assured. In my role as a legislator, I have pushed for legislation to help Illinois families access high-quality, affordable healthcare.

The planned project, aimed at enhancing cardiovascular services for the NorthShore system, is a geographically convenient location for a large number of patients in the northern Cook and southern Lake County area. The expansion will also allow NorthShore to continue its focus on enhancing the quality of cardiovascular care delivered and grant patients improved access to the latest clinical techniques for the treatment of cardiovascular disease. Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in the U.S. and has a disproportionate impact on communities of color in addition to those vulnerable to the social determinants of health.

I appreciate the advancements NorthShore continues to make in treating cardiovascular disease and look forward to its continued contribution to the community.

I urge your favorable consideration of NorthShore's CON application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Gong-Gershowitz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jennifer" being the most prominent part.

Jennifer Gong-Gershowitz  
Representative, 17<sup>th</sup> District