



**ILLINOIS
MEDICAL
DISTRICT**

September 27, 2021

Courtney Avery
Board Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, Second Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: Letter of Support- Rush Specialty Hospital

Dear Ms. Avery,

My name is Kate Schellinger and I serve as the Interim Executive Director for Illinois Medical District ("IMD") in Chicago, Illinois. Please accept this letter in support of the Rush Specialty Hospital Certificate of Need application. We count Rush University Medical Center ("Rush") as one of our partners in the IMD and we support their efforts to bring this facility to the area. Rush has maintained a reputation of delivering high quality care to patients in the community, and being a strong anchor for the IMD and West Side. We are also pleased by Rush's proposed joint venture partner, Select Medical, who is a nationally recognized provider of rehabilitation and long-term acute care services.

The IMD has several partners of various sizes within the district, but they all share a common purpose. Our partners are accelerating discovery and commercialization that is reshaping the practice of medicine. Rush is one of four major health systems in the IMD, and there are 40+ healthcare-related facilities, research labs, multiple universities, a biotech incubator, and many more within the IMD. However, there are no facilities in the IMD that currently offer long-term acute care services. Fortunately, Rush does offer intensive inpatient comprehensive rehabilitation services and we look forward to that unit being relocated to the new facility.

We are confident that this new facility will increase access to specialty services that do not currently exist in the IMD, and we are thrilled that our partners are planning to bring those services to our community.

Sincerely,

Kate Schellinger
Interim Executive Director
Illinois Medical District

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