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*Laura M. Murphy*  
Deputy Majority Leader  
State Senator 28<sup>th</sup> District

June 22nd, 2022

John Knieri  
Administrator  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 West Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: Letter of Support for Northwest Community Healthcare Cancer Center

I am writing to ask that the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board support Northwest Community Healthcare's (NCH) plan to establish a comprehensive cancer center in Schaumburg, IL, approximately 5 miles from the NCH main campus. Schaumburg is centrally located and will improve accessibility to patients that historically traveled downtown Chicago for cancer care.

As the Senator for the 28<sup>th</sup> district, addressing my constituents' concerns is of the utmost importance to me. Cancer is a top health concern for our community. Cancer is the second leading cause of mortality nationally and represents one of the most life-altering and costly health problems in the United States. Currently over 134,000 patients within NCH's primary service area utilize NCH outpatient oncology services and another 400,000 people from NCH's secondary service area seek outpatient cancer care at NCH.

In 2022, over 1.9 million new cancer cases are expected to be diagnosed in the United States, and 75,000 of those cases are projected in Illinois so the need for oncology services is growing significantly. Cancer care is fragmented in our region and establishing a stand-alone cancer center would improve the health care delivery system and overall well-being of the community. It would improve quality, access, patient safety, operational efficiency and physician recruitment and retention through the replacement of outdated equipment and facilities with a larger state-of-the-art, dedicated cancer center.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter, and I hope you will vote to approve NCH's application to build a cancer center and transform the lives of so many families in my district and the entire community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laura M. Murphy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Laura" being the most prominent.

Laura Murphy  
State Senator - 28th District