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June 25, 2024

Anne M. Cooper (312) 873-3606 (312) 276-4317 Fax acooper@polsinelli.com

Mr. John Kniery Administrator Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board 525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: NorthPointe Neighborhood Hospital (Proj. No. 24-018)

Dear Mr. Kniery:

This office represents Beloit Health System, Inc. ("BHS"). In that capacity, BHS requests a public hearing for the NorthPointe Neighborhood Hospital (Proj. No. 24-018) to permit members of the Stateline community an opportunity to provide their support for the project. The planned hospital is part of the evolution of the NorthPointe Health and Wellness Campus efforts to bring health care closer to residents of the Stateline community. The planned hospital will help alleviate high utilization at Beloit Memorial Hospital ("BMH") and stem the outmigration of Illinois patients to the applicant's Wisconsin hospital in Beloit. Its emergency department will improve access to emergency services, a need that many constituents including other hospital providers have identified for many years. With a local ED, transport times to a hospital for care will be reduced and local EMS teams will be more readily available in their local districts. With inpatient services in the immediate community, area residents can receive timely access to crucial and sometimes lifesaving inpatient services, Further, a new hospital in the Stateline Community will assist BHS's efforts to recruit primary care and specialty physicians to the area, which is a HRSAdesignated primary care health professional shortage area.

If you have any questions or need anything further, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely

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Anne M. Cooper

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cc: Roger Kapoor