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Natalie Manley
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
98TH DISTRICT

2 October, 2024

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson St., Second Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: Opposition to Beloit Health System, Inc. Proposed Micro-Hospital

Dear Chairwoman Savage and members of the HFSRB,

I am writing to express my opposition to Beloit Health System, Inc.'s proposed NorthPointe Neighborhood Hospital in Winnebago County, Illinois. As a member of the Illinois House Health Care Availability and Access Committee, I am well versed in the healthcare delivery system of our fair State. As such, I am deeply concerned about the impact of the proposed hospital on the existing healthcare system in Northern Illinois.

Beloit Health System proposes to create a micro-hospital that would be reliant on, and subordinate to, an out-of-state hospital in an area where existing healthcare facilities serve a significant number of underinsured, and uninsured, patients. To allow the creation of a new hospital that targets an overwhelmingly young and affluent demographic in Roscoe raises the real risk of destabilizing the payer mix existing facilities rely upon to offset lower reimbursement received for the care they provide to vulnerable populations. The proposed hospital will disrupt the payer mix for the hospitals that already exist in Illinois and route those funds to our neighboring state as I have little doubt that any patients who require transfer from the proposed micro-hospital will be routed to the parent location of Beloit Memorial Hospital in Beloit, Wisconsin.

We should not condone the creation of a strategy by an out-of-state hospital to redirect, for their own gain, the resources needed by our own hospitals to support our local communities. I urge the Review Board to oppose the proposed NorthPointe Neighborhood Hospital.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Natalie A. Manley".

Natalie A. Manley
Deputy Majority Leader, State Representative, 98th District