

August 28, 2025

Via Federal Express
Via Email

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

Re: NorthPointe Neighborhood Hospital (Project 24-018) Support Letter

Dear Mr. Kniery:

As a Senior Fellow at the non-partisan health care policy Think Tank, the Lown Institute and an expert on health policy, I am writing in support of the certificate of need permit application to establish a neighborhood hospital in Roscoe, Illinois to be known as the NorthPointe Neighborhood Hospital (the "Project").

This Board plays an essential role in improving health access, quality and cost containment goals for the people of Illinois. As a former Commissioner on the Massachusetts Health Policy Commission, a groundbreaking state agency that has similar goals to this Board, I too have been challenged to think critically about the same issues confronting this Board as it considers the Project.

Beloit Memorial Hospital, a Wisconsin disproportionate share hospital with a public payer mix near 70%, is a diverse non-profit, health care system serving both the Illinois and Wisconsin Stateline community residents for decades. It offers much needed services to the communities it serves, including nearly \$900 million in uncompensated services. In my state, we would venerate such a hospital and we ask how much state subsidies are needed to keep a high value place like this open? The fact this non-profit hospital does all these things through good stewardship and is also able to eke out a small, but positive operating margin each year is highly laudable.

Since this project was initially before the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board, the NorthPointe Neighborhood Hospital application has been slightly modified to include an Illinois partner.

As the Board well knows, this Project comes at a time when Illinois, like other states, is already dealing with continuing market dysfunction in the provision of hospital services. There are clear haves and have not hospitals. Frequently, the have nots are smaller nonprofits and independent hospitals. As you have heard, due to planned Medicaid cuts, nine Illinois hospitals are at risk of closing, which will limit access to health care and worsen health outcomes. In some

Mr. John Kniery
August 28, 2025
Page 2

cases, larger non-profit health systems sell their hospitals that continue to hemorrhage dollars often to private equity owners—the only ones willing to buy these distressed hospitals. They then employ business tactics to try to return these hospitals to profitability—but not necessarily sustain needed care services.

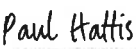
We witnessed this in spades in Massachusetts with the Steward Health Care System. As Steward failed in Massachusetts, two hospitals closed, and the Commonwealth had to work incredibly hard and throw in hundreds of millions of dollars of its own to save six other hospitals for at least a few years. The Commonwealth did not facilitate the transfer of these struggling hospitals to larger, wealthier and prestigious health care systems. Instead, it decided to move the assets to in-state safety net, nonprofit providers—supporting a vision to expand their ownership footprint into regional high-value, systems. The hope is to not only keep these formerly Steward hospitals open—but also help to strengthen the regional safety net providers.

Like the Stateline community, many people in southeastern Massachusetts travel to Rhode Island for their care. Massachusetts welcomed a Rhode Island based provider to buy two of the Steward hospitals with the hope that the Rhode Island buyer, Brown University Health, could succeed and build a regional system that would cross state lines. Rather than seeing this as any kind of loss for Massachusetts residents, because Brown is a much more affordable choice than some of our Boston based academic centers, the Commonwealth viewed this as a way to keep commercial health care spending growth in check. On this last point, the Rand Corporation data shows that BHS commercial prices for inpatient care across a full range of DRGs brings substantial savings for care provided to privately insured patients as compared to the Rockford hospitals.

In summary, creating non-profit regional health care systems, trying to strengthen financially challenged, yet high value providers, bringing out-of-state providers in to be part of that solution; sharing among providers the responsibility for caring for Medicaid and increasing numbers of uninsured people; and trying to keep commercial price growth in check---all of these things are possible good outcomes that could flow here.

I support the Northpointe proposal to establish a new 10-bed hospital, with emergency services and expanded primary care that can be offered to your Stateline residents.

Sincerely

Signed by:

E1ABFAB2B42A48E...

Paul A. Hattis, M.D., J.D., MPH
Senior Fellow
Lown Institute

Certificate Of Completion

Envelope Id: C372FB5B-6857-4B78-828F-B41D1F400C25
 Subject: Please Docusign [#623733]: P. Hattis Support Letter (105684779v1).docx
 Source Envelope:
 Document Pages: 2
 Certificate Pages: 5
 AutoNav: Enabled
 EnvelopeId Stamping: Enabled
 Time Zone: (UTC-07:00) Mountain Time (US & Canada)

Status: Completed

Envelope Originator:
 Legal Support Center - Polsinelli
 800 W 47th St Ste 300
 Kansas City, MO 64112
 lsc@polsinelli.com
 IP Address: 209.236.106.6

Record Tracking

Status: Original
 9/1/2025 9:06:21 AM

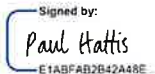
Holder: Legal Support Center - Polsinelli
 lsc@polsinelli.com

Location: DocuSign

Signer Events

Paul Hattis
 paul.hattis@gmail.com
 Security Level: Email, Account Authentication
 (None)

Signature

Signed by:

 E1ABFAB2B42A48E

Signature Adoption: Pre-selected Style
 Using IP Address: 172.58.109.206
 Signed using mobile

Timestamp

Sent: 9/1/2025 9:11:43 AM
 Viewed: 9/1/2025 4:16:18 PM
 Signed: 9/1/2025 4:16:42 PM

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:
 Accepted: 9/1/2025 4:16:18 PM
 ID: eaeaaf9d-b534-47df-9240-da10a670e6f4

In Person Signer Events

Signature

Timestamp

Editor Delivery Events

Status

Timestamp

Agent Delivery Events

Status

Timestamp

Intermediary Delivery Events

Status

Timestamp

Certified Delivery Events

Status

Timestamp

Carbon Copy Events

Status

Timestamp

Kara Friedman
 KFriedman@polsinelli.com
 Authorized Representative
 Security Level: Email, Account Authentication
 (None)

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:
 Not Offered via Docusign

COPIED

Sent: 9/1/2025 9:11:42 AM
 Viewed: 9/1/2025 5:51:14 PM

Anne Cooper
 acooper@polsinelli.com
 Security Level: Email, Account Authentication
 (None)

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:
 Not Offered via Docusign

COPIED

Sent: 9/1/2025 4:16:43 PM
 Viewed: 9/2/2025 7:56:02 AM

Witness Events

Signature

Timestamp

Notary Events

Signature

Timestamp

Envelope Summary Events	Status	Timestamps
Envelope Sent	Hashed/Encrypted	9/1/2025 9:11:42 AM
Certified Delivered	Security Checked	9/1/2025 4:16:18 PM
Signing Complete	Security Checked	9/1/2025 4:16:42 PM
Completed	Security Checked	9/1/2025 4:16:43 PM
Payment Events	Status	Timestamps
Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure		

ELECTRONIC RECORD AND SIGNATURE DISCLOSURE

From time to time, polsinelli (we, us or Company) may be required by law to provide to you certain written notices or disclosures. Described below are the terms and conditions for providing to you such notices and disclosures electronically through the DocuSign system. Please read the information below carefully and thoroughly, and if you can access this information electronically to your satisfaction and agree to this Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure (ERSD), please confirm your agreement by selecting the check-box next to 'I agree to use electronic records and signatures' before clicking 'CONTINUE' within the DocuSign system.

Getting paper copies

At any time, you may request from us a paper copy of any record provided or made available electronically to you by us. You will have the ability to download and print documents we send to you through the DocuSign system during and immediately after the signing session and, if you elect to create a DocuSign account, you may access the documents for a limited period of time (usually 30 days) after such documents are first sent to you. After such time, if you wish for us to send you paper copies of any such documents from our office to you, you will be charged a \$0.00 per-page fee. You may request delivery of such paper copies from us by following the procedure described below.

Withdrawing your consent

If you decide to receive notices and disclosures from us electronically, you may at any time change your mind and tell us that thereafter you want to receive required notices and disclosures only in paper format. How you must inform us of your decision to receive future notices and disclosure in paper format and withdraw your consent to receive notices and disclosures electronically is described below.

Consequences of changing your mind

If you elect to receive required notices and disclosures only in paper format, it will slow the speed at which we can complete certain steps in transactions with you and delivering services to you because we will need first to send the required notices or disclosures to you in paper format, and then wait until we receive back from you your acknowledgment of your receipt of such paper notices or disclosures. Further, you will no longer be able to use the DocuSign system to receive required notices and consents electronically from us or to sign electronically documents from us.

All notices and disclosures will be sent to you electronically

Unless you tell us otherwise in accordance with the procedures described herein, we will provide electronically to you through the DocuSign system all required notices, disclosures, authorizations, acknowledgements, and other documents that are required to be provided or made available to you during the course of our relationship with you. To reduce the chance of you inadvertently not receiving any notice or disclosure, we prefer to provide all of the required notices and disclosures to you by the same method and to the same address that you have given us. Thus, you can receive all the disclosures and notices electronically or in paper format through the paper mail delivery system. If you do not agree with this process, please let us know as described below. Please also see the paragraph immediately above that describes the consequences of your electing not to receive delivery of the notices and disclosures electronically from us.

How to contact polsinelli:

You may contact us to let us know of your changes as to how we may contact you electronically, to request paper copies of certain information from us, and to withdraw your prior consent to receive notices and disclosures electronically as follows:

To contact us by email send messages to: cgoodspeed@polsinelli.com

To advise polsinelli of your new email address

To let us know of a change in your email address where we should send notices and disclosures electronically to you, you must send an email message to us at cgoodspeed@polsinelli.com and in the body of such request you must state: your previous email address, your new email address. We do not require any other information from you to change your email address.

If you created a DocuSign account, you may update it with your new email address through your account preferences.

To request paper copies from polsinelli

To request delivery from us of paper copies of the notices and disclosures previously provided by us to you electronically, you must send us an email to cgoodspeed@polsinelli.com and in the body of such request you must state your email address, full name, mailing address, and telephone number. We will bill you for any fees at that time, if any.

To withdraw your consent with polsinelli

To inform us that you no longer wish to receive future notices and disclosures in electronic format you may:

i. decline to sign a document from within your signing session, and on the subsequent page, select the check-box indicating you wish to withdraw your consent, or you may;

ii. send us an email to cgoodspeed@polsinelli.com and in the body of such request you must state your email, full name, mailing address, and telephone number. We do not need any other information from you to withdraw consent.. The consequences of your withdrawing consent for online documents will be that transactions may take a longer time to process..

Required hardware and software

The minimum system requirements for using the DocuSign system may change over time. The current system requirements are found here: <https://support.docusign.com/guides/signer-guide-signing-system-requirements>.

Acknowledging your access and consent to receive and sign documents electronically

To confirm to us that you can access this information electronically, which will be similar to other electronic notices and disclosures that we will provide to you, please confirm that you have read this ERSD, and (i) that you are able to print on paper or electronically save this ERSD for your future reference and access; or (ii) that you are able to email this ERSD to an email address where you will be able to print on paper or save it for your future reference and access. Further, if you consent to receiving notices and disclosures exclusively in electronic format as described herein, then select the check-box next to 'I agree to use electronic records and signatures' before clicking 'CONTINUE' within the DocuSign system.

By selecting the check-box next to 'I agree to use electronic records and signatures', you confirm that:

- You can access and read this Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure; and
- You can print on paper this Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure, or save or send this Electronic Record and Disclosure to a location where you can print it, for future reference and access; and
- Until or unless you notify polsinelli as described above, you consent to receive exclusively through electronic means all notices, disclosures, authorizations, acknowledgements, and other documents that are required to be provided or made available to you by polsinelli during the course of your relationship with polsinelli.

ORIGIN ID: CHIA (312) 819-1900 ANNE COOPER POL SINELLI PC 190 N RIVERSIDE PLAZA SUITE 3000 CHICAGO, IL 60606 UNITED STATES US		SHIP DATE: 02SEP25 ACTWGT: 0.50 LB CAD: 253865944MSX13600
TO JOHN KNIERY IL HEALTH FAC AND SERVS REV. BD 525 W JEFFERSON ST. 2ND FL SPRINGFIELD IL 62761 (217) 785-1557 INV. REF: 1253697970022454 PO DEPT		BILL SENDER
		
REL# 3785346		
		
J253026062301uv		
58GJ21150E59F2		

TRK# 3927 4700 8567 0201	WED - 03 SEP 10:30A PRIORITY OVERNIGHT
XW SPILG IL-US SPIA 62761 STL	

FOLD on this line and place in shipping pouch with bar code and delivery address visible

1. Fold the first printed page in half and use as the shipping label.
2. Place the label in a waybill pouch and affix it to your shipment so that the barcode portion of the label can be read and scanned.
3. Keep the second page as a receipt for your records. The receipt contains the terms and conditions of shipping and information useful for tracking your package.

Legal Terms and Conditions

Tendering packages by using this system constitutes your agreement to the service conditions for the transportation of your shipments as found in the applicable FedEx Service Guide, available upon request. FedEx will not be responsible for any claim in excess of the applicable declared value, whether the result of loss, damage, delay, non-delivery, misdelivery, or misinformation, unless you declare a higher value, pay an additional charge, document your actual loss and file a timely claim. Limitations found in the applicable FedEx Service Guide apply. Your right to recover from FedEx for any loss, including intrinsic value of the package, loss of sales, income interest, profit, attorney's fees, costs, and other forms of damage whether direct, incidental, consequential, or special is limited to the greater of 100 USD or the authorized declared value. Recovery cannot exceed actual documented loss. Maximum for items of extraordinary value is 500 USD, e.g. jewelry, precious metals, negotiable instruments and other items listed in our Service Guide. Written claims must be filed within strict time limits, see applicable FedEx Service Guide. FedEx will not be liable for loss or damage to prohibited items in any event or for your acts or omissions, including, without limitation, improper or insufficient packaging, securing, marking or addressing, or the acts or omissions of the recipient or anyone else with an interest in the package. See the applicable FedEx Service Guide for complete terms and conditions. To obtain information regarding how to file a claim or to obtain a Service Guide, please call 1-800-GO-FEDEX (1-800-463-3339).