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June 26, 2024

Ms. Debra Savage Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board 525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: Project 24-018, NorthPointe Neighborhood Hospital, Roscoe, Illinois

Dear Chair Savage,

I strongly support Beloit Health System's proposal for a neighborhood hospital at the NorthPointe campus. As an infectious disease specialist at Beloit Memorial Hospital, I am acutely aware of the critical role that timely and accessible healthcare services play in the effective management of infectious diseases.

I am responsible for diagnosing and treating a wide range of infectious conditions, from common bacterial infections to more complex cases involving viral or fungal pathogens. My work often involves collaborating closely with a multidisciplinary team, including primary care physicians, surgeons, pharmacists, and nurses, to ensure comprehensive care for patients dealing with both acute and chronic infections. Given the nature of infectious diseases, which can progress rapidly and unpredictably, it is imperative that patients have immediate access to emergency and inpatient services when their condition requires urgent intervention.

The proposed hospital and emergency room in Roscoe will provide a much-needed resource for timely diagnosis and treatment of infections. This facility will not only serve as a crucial point of care for patients experiencing acute symptoms but will also support ongoing management of chronic infections, allowing for better continuity of care. The establishment of this hospital will enable my patients to receive high-quality care close to home, reducing the need for long and potentially risky travel to distant medical facilities.

In advocating for the health and well-being of my patients, I firmly believe that approving Beloit Health System's proposal will significantly enhance healthcare delivery in our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jamié Gonzalez, MD

Infectious Disease

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