



STATE SENATOR
Steve Stadelman
34th District



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October 4, 2024

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

Dear Chairwoman and Members:

Please accept this letter as an expression of my concern over NorthPointe Neighborhood Hospital as proposed by Beloit Health System. Although the intention to expand healthcare infrastructure may seem positive, this project could have a negative impact on health care systems in northern Illinois.

Beloit Health System claims there is a shortage of medical surgical beds in the northern Illinois service area, but other sources suggest there is actually an excess of nearly 100 beds. The proposal indicates NorthPointe will serve patients in a 17-miles radius; however, that territory already has seven hospitals, including two Level 1 Trauma Centers and one Level 2 Trauma Center, along with 13 urgent care/immediate care/prompt care centers. Our community simply does not need another hospital, especially when it may adversely impact existing health care delivery in northern Illinois.

I'm also worried about misrepresentation around the scope of care patients will assume is available at NorthPointe. The lack of medical services such a cardiac catheterization lab could mean the difference between life and death for patients confronted with an unnecessary transfer to a full-fledged hospital.

Finally, I'm not convinced of the professed need for more hospital beds in the area that I'm privileged to represent in the Illinois Senate. I suspect the opposite is more likely, that NorthPointe only would duplicate services at the expense of the three primary health systems in Rockford.

My preference is to focus on strengthening our current medical infrastructure and keeping local patients local, close to their loved ones. I urge you look critically at this proposal and act in favor of what's best for Illinois medical providers and the patients in their care.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Stadelman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

State Senator, 34th District