Hampshire Township
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June 15, 2026

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
ATTN: Certificate of Need Review Committee

RE: Letter of Support for Sycamore Specialty Hospital LTACH Application

Dear Members of the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board:

I am writing to express my strong support for the application submitted by Sycamore Specialty Hospital to establish a Long-Term Acute Care Hospital (LTACH) at the former Kindred Hospital facility in Sycamore, Illinois.

As a representative of Hampshire Township, I have witnessed firsthand the rapid growth occurring throughout our region. Hampshire Township and the surrounding communities are among the fastest-growing areas in Kane County, creating an increasing demand for accessible healthcare services, particularly for older adults and individuals requiring specialized post-acute care.

The closure of Kindred Hospital left a significant gap in the availability of LTACH services for residents in our area. While patients have technically been redirected to other facilities, many of those hospitals are located substantially farther away, creating hardships for patients and their families. Access to care should not require lengthy travel times, especially for individuals recovering from serious illnesses, complex medical conditions, or extended hospitalizations.

Sycamore Specialty Hospital is uniquely positioned to fill this critical healthcare need. Located approximately twenty minutes from Hampshire Township, the facility would provide convenient access to specialized rehabilitation and long-term acute care services that are essential to the recovery and well-being of many residents in our community.

The need for these services is further amplified by the extraordinary growth occurring throughout Hampshire Township and the surrounding area. Recent population estimates indicate that Hampshire Township has grown by more than 19 percent since 2020, increasing from approximately 8,900 residents to more than 10,600 residents today. In addition, the Village of Hampshire has been recognized as one of the fastest-growing communities in Illinois, reflecting the continued residential development occurring throughout western Kane County.

According to projections from the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), the senior population within our area is expected to increase by approximately 147 percent by 2040. As our population ages, the demand for LTACH services—including rehabilitation and recovery support for complex medical conditions—will increase significantly. Ensuring that these services remain

available within a reasonable distance of patients and their families is vital to maintaining quality healthcare throughout the region.

This rapid population growth, combined with CMAP projections, creates a compelling need to preserve and expand access to healthcare services that serve older adults and individuals recovering from serious medical conditions. As our community continues to grow, so too will the demand for long-term acute care and rehabilitation services.

This challenge is compounded by the lack of adequate transportation options available to many seniors living in western Kane County. Public transportation services are limited throughout much of our region, leaving many older adults dependent upon family members, friends, or local transportation programs to access medical care. As the senior population continues to grow, transportation barriers will become an even greater obstacle to receiving necessary healthcare services.

Fortunately, Hampshire Township operates a senior transportation program that assists residents with access to medical appointments and healthcare services. Sycamore Specialty Hospital's proposed location falls within the service area that our transportation program can currently accommodate. This means that many of our residents who require LTACH services would have a realistic and reliable means of accessing care. In contrast, transportation to more distant facilities presents significant logistical challenges and may place an undue burden on patients, families, and local support systems.

For many residents, particularly seniors and individuals with complex medical conditions, the availability of specialized care is only meaningful if that care can be reasonably accessed. The proposed Sycamore Specialty Hospital location would help ensure that residents of Hampshire Township and neighboring communities can receive critical long-term acute care services close to home and within reach of existing transportation resources.

Approving Sycamore Specialty Hospital's application would not create unnecessary duplication of services. Rather, it would restore critical healthcare capacity that was lost when Kindred Hospital closed and would preserve access to care for current and future residents of northern Kane County, DeKalb County, and surrounding communities.

I respectfully urge the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board to approve the Certificate of Need application for Sycamore Specialty Hospital. Doing so will strengthen healthcare access, support an aging population, and ensure that residents of our growing communities continue to receive the specialized care they need close to home.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Jody Remakel
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