

March 28, 2018

Ms. Kathryn Olson  
Chair Woman  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor  
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: Fresenius Kidney Care New Lenox, Project #17-065

Dear Ms. Olson:

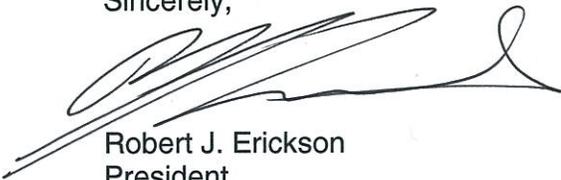
As President of Presence Saint Joseph Medical Center in Joliet, I am writing to express my support for the 12-station dialysis facility that Fresenius Kidney Care proposes to establish in the Cedar Crossings development near Route 6 and I-355 in New Lenox. Fresenius Medical Care and Kidney Care Center physicians have been serving residents in the Hospital's service area for many years and have a longstanding commitment here in our community to high-quality patient care.

We at Presence Saint Joseph Medical Center have witnessed the rates of kidney failure rise as the population ages and the demographic makeup of our communities becomes more and more diverse. Along with these changes, unfortunately, comes an increase in diabetes and high blood pressure leading to the increase in kidney disease. With area clinics operating near capacity, we have experienced difficulty finding appropriate clinic and shift options for patients being discharged from the Hospital.

Without an end in sight to the health issues at hand, we fully expect this trend to continue. Presence Saint Joseph Medical Center wants to ensure that dialysis services will remain available in the Joliet/New Lenox area and encourage the Board to approve the Certificate of Need application for the Fresenius Kidney Care New Lenox dialysis clinic.

I appreciate the opportunity to lend my support for this facility.

Sincerely,



Robert J. Erickson  
President