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October 9, 2018

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
Illinois Department of Public Health
525 West Jefferson Street, Second Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: Project No. 17-066

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed support letter from the Honorable Richard J. Durbin, U.S. Senator for the State of Illinois for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

ENCLOSURE



RICHARD J. DURBIN

ILLINOIS

ASSISTANT DEMOCRATIC LEADER

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

COMMITTEE ON RULES
AND ADMINISTRATION

United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510-1304

October 5, 2018

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

Dear Chair Olson,

I am writing in support of DuPage Medical Group's efforts to open North Dunes Dialysis in Waukegan, Illinois. Forty-four miles north of the Chicago Loop, nearly 371,000 residents live within a thirty-minute travel time of Waukegan and this region continues to grow as elderly residents and families move to the suburbs. Unfortunately, this region of the state lacks adequate access to dialysis. The service area surrounding the proposed North Dunes Dialysis clinic is seriously underserved, with a ratio of one station to every 3,824 residents, compared to the state average of one station for every 2,735. This illustrates the lagging infrastructure in the area and underscores the importance of DaVita and DuPage Medical Group's efforts to proactively address this community need with the North Dunes Dialysis clinic, so these life-saving services can continue to grow with area needs.

I also applaud DaVita and DuPage Medical Group's innovative spirits and the collaborative partnership that underlies their pending dialysis projects in Lake County. Through the Group's collaborative, team-oriented care model, they reduced these fragile seniors' hospital admissions, re-admissions, and complications by fifty percent. These special efforts by American health care providers must be celebrated and, where possible, replicated. I understand that DaVita and DuPage Medical Group intend to provide similar care coordination at the North Dunes Dialysis clinic to the benefit of their shared patients.

I support DaVita and DuPage Medical Group's commitment to providing high quality dialysis care to residents of Waukegan. I urge the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board to approve this clinic and enable these providers to serve this growing number of dialysis patients in Illinois. Please do not hesitate to contact my Springfield office at (217) 492-4062, should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin
U.S. Senator

RJD/aa