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HEALTH FACILITIES & SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

October 9, 2018

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. **18-017**

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

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RICHARD J. DURBIN

ILLINOIS

ASSISTANT DEMOCRATIC LEADER

United States Senate

Washington, DC 20510–1304

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

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 Marshall Square Dialysis in Chicago, Illinois. The area residents are predominately African-American (32%) and Hispanic (65%). Both groups have higher incidence of ESRD and kidney disease than the general population. Approximately 37% of the population lives below the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and more than half (56%) live below 150% of the FPL.

The area is in a federally-designated health professional shortage zone. Since, minorities and those living in poverty tend to have worse kidney outcomes than the general public, there is a real need for these services and to address the access disparities between the city and suburbs. It appears that some nearby clinics are very heavily utilized (100 %+), while others are fairly average. That said, the clinics within five miles of the proposed clinic are projected to be at 80% utilization by the time this clinic would be operational, thus the area clinics are "nearing capacity."

Given the data and the demographic points from the application, this is a vulnerable community at high risk of developing kidney disease. It is imperative that there are appropriate resources in the area in place to serve these individuals. There is a Station need of 43 additional stations that are necessary according to the HFSRB's Inventory and Need Determinations.

I urge you to give the DuPage Medical Group's efforts and Marshall Square Dialysis the most serious consideration. Thank you for your attention to this mater and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my Springfield office at (217) 492-4062.

Sincerely,

Dick Durbin

Richard J. Durbin
U.S. Senator

RJD/aa

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