

January 24, 2019

Ms. Courtney R. Avery

Administrator

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor

Springfield, IL 62761

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Re: Opposition to CON 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy, Illinois

Dear Ms. Avery,

My name is Nancy Aden, I am a Unit Secretary on the Child and Adolescent Behavioral Unit at Blessing Hospital. I have only been employed for two years with Blessing, but have seen how tremendous a need there is for this service. Our children ranging from ages 5-18, benefit from the tools they acquire during their stay with us. These mental tools are used to help them cope when they leave. It would be a great disservice to our community to possibly lose this.

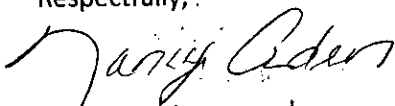
Sadly this could happen if the Con 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center is passed. The QMG proposal is a duplication of services. Blessing and QMG already offer an outpatient surgery center on the QMG campus. Blessing owns the service and QMG manages it. This has been a successful arrangement for more than 10 years now. Blessing would have no role in the proposed center. A second outpatient surgery center is not needed.

Opening a second surgery center in this small community would cost jobs. Blessing could lose approximately 400 jobs or 12 percent of the employee body. Even though the significant portion of this would affect the outpatient surgery business, its trickledown effect will also cut positions in other key areas. Working with a small staff in the Child and Adolescent Unit, any cuts would be detrimental to the help these kids receive.

I believe what is in the best interests for the community would be for Blessing and QMG to continue cooperation in the delivery of key services. It has been successful with the current outpatient surgery center and with the Cancer Center. Blessing wants to continue working with QMG, not be put in a position to work against them in improving the health of our community.

For these reasons I respectfully ask that the Health Facilities and Service Review Board deny CON application 18-042 – Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,


Nancy Aden