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January 28, 2019

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Mrs. Courtney R Avery, Administrator
IL Health Facilities & Service Review Board
525 West Jackson, 3rd Floor
Springfield IL 62761

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Dear Ms. Avery:

RE: Opposition to CON 18-042 Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy IL

As a realtor and resident of Quincy IL, I oppose CON 18-042.

The new facility represents a duplication of services. Our community simply does not have the work force to staff two separate facilities. Both entities struggle with open positions now, and duplicating services will not help.

Because the current surgery center owned by Blessing and managed by Quincy Medical Group is not near capacity; allowing two centers will likely cause one to not do well, which will harm our physician community. It is already somewhat difficult to attract physicians/surgeons to this area because we are small. Most physicians/surgeons (or their spouses) prefer larger metropolitan areas.

The issues with Blessing charging a higher rate points to the broken system. They are naturally going to charge allowable rates, using the profits to benefit our community, as evidenced in their 2018 community benefit investment of \$63 million. All businesses are able to fund "lost leaders" (or in this case, social services/community benefit) with the profits from higher margin products/services.

A better recommendation would be your making these two entities work together for the well being of all involved and bring the current surgery center up to capacity. Our community would definitely benefit if Quincy Medical Group and Blessing Health System could work together.

I respectfully ask that the Health Facilities and Review Board deny CON application 18-042 requested by Quincy Medical Group, as it will be detrimental to our Quincy community by duplicating existing services.

Sincerely,



Bob Hays
Quincy IL