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KIMBERLY A. LIGHTFORD
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COMMITTEES:

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OCT 2 2019

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

October 2, 2019

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
Illinois Department of Public Health
525 West Jefferson St., 2nd Floor
Springfield IL 62761

Attention: Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator

Re: Project 19-022 – Austin Dialysis at Loretto

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please let the members of the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board (State Board) know that I fully support CON project 19-022, which is proposing the establishment of a 12-station dialysis facility in the City of Chicago. The State Board's inventory data shows that Health Service Area 6 (i.e., Chicago) has a need for 80 additional dialysis stations. This project will meet that stated need.

Furthermore, I support this project because:

- it will enhance access to dialysis care in the Austin neighborhood, an area with a large African American population, a group that suffers disproportionately from kidney disease;
- it will enhance access to dialysis care services in an area that is underserved, with the federal Health Resources and Services Administration listing Austin and surrounding communities as medically underserved; and
- it will provide economic development and create more jobs in this community.

For the reasons noted above, I ask the State Board to approve this CON permit application. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly A. Lightford

Kimberly Lightford
State Senator
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