ILLINOIS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GREGORY S. HARRIS
HOUSE MAJORITY LEADER
13TH DISTRICT

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July 9, 2019

Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W Jefferson, Second Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Administrator Avery,

As State Representative for the 13th District, I represent Swedish Covenant Hospital and the communities it serves. I support the hospital's plan to affiliate with NorthShore University HealthSystem. Swedish Covenant Hospital provides critical healthcare services, educational programs and employment to those living in my district and the surrounding community.

As Illinois House Majority Leader, I am passionate about healthcare and have put tremendous energy into our Medicaid program to ensure affordable and accessible healthcare for my constituents and for all Illinois residents while restoring the state's fiscal stability.

I share the Hospital's vision to expand the care delivery system for people struggling with mental illness and substance abuse and for comprehensive cancer services. I am acutely aware of the importance of a meaningful healthcare presence in our community to continue and enhance a broad mission to improve health and wellness for all of our residents.

After the completion of the partnership, Swedish Covenant Hospital will continue to operate as a full service acute care community safety net hospital on Chicago's North Side, but one with greater access to world class care and capabilities. Joining the NorthShore family will allow Swedish Covenant Hospital to expand its expertise in research programs, personalized medicine and advanced specialty services and provide its patients with access to the best health care available.

I fully support Swedish Covenant Hospital's plan to affiliate and look forward to a continued partnership with this institution.

Sincerely,

Gregory Harris
House Majority Leader
State Representative, District 13