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Senator Ram Villivalam
Illinois State Senate
8th Legislative District

July 3, 2019

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

Dear Administrator Avery:

I support the affiliation of Swedish Covenant Hospital with NorthShore University HealthSystem. NorthShore and Swedish Covenant Hospital both provide much needed healthcare to low income, Medicaid, and uninsured residents. The two organizations have a common vision and purpose and a combined 260-year tradition of delivering outstanding patient care. Their partnership will create an opportunity to expand access and enhance much needed delivery of top-quality healthcare services.

Swedish Covenant Hospital has a long history of serving the residents of the 8th District on the north side of Chicago and today employs nearly 3,000 individuals; one of Chicago's largest employers on the north side. Swedish Covenant Hospital is committed to serving everyone in need of healthcare regardless of ethnicity, religion, socio-economic background, age and country of origin.

NorthShore University HealthSystem shares the Swedish commitment to this community, the most diverse in the State of Illinois. Through the Swedish Covenant Foundation, the organizations will continue to support vulnerable populations (e.g., violence prevention, housing for the homeless, dental clinic) to preserve health and invest in expanding healthcare for residents for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Senator Ram Villivalam

Ram Villivalam
IL State Senator
8th District