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ILLINOIS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SCOTT R. DRURY
STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 58TH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES:
• APPROPRIATIONS: HUMAN SERVICES
• HIGHER EDUCATION
• INSURANCE
• JUDICIARY
• PERSONNEL & PENSIONS
• TOLLWAY OVERSIGHT

RECEIVED

MAR 14 2014

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

March 7, 2014

Ms. Kathryn J. Olson
Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson Street, Second Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: Project No. 14-006

Dear Chairwoman Olson:

I am writing to express my support for the campus revitalization project being undertaken by Northwestern Lake Forest Hospital (NLFH), and to request that the Health Facilities Services and Review Board (Review Board) approve a permit for the project.

NLFH has served the greater Lake County community for more than a century. The hospital began serving Lake County residents from its current location in 1942. The existing hospital physical plant has outlived its ability to support the evolving demands associated with providing access to timely, quality health care.

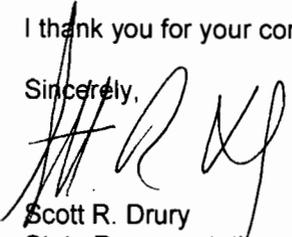
It is my understanding that: (1) the Review Board unanimously approved NLFH's Master Design Permit on September 24, 2013 with no opposition; (2) the project meets IHFPB standards regarding project cost and is substantially compliant with standards regarding size and utilization; and (3) the City of Lake Forest has also approved NLFH's Campus Master Land Use Plan.

This project also affirms NLFH's commitment to serving all Lake County residents regardless of ability to pay. It is my understanding that NLFH is a leading provider of charity care in Lake County, and in 2012 alone provided \$10.2 million in charity care (at cost) – or, 25% of all charity care provided by Lake County hospitals. NLFH's vision is to further expand access to primary and specialty care by bringing nationally recognized physicians and innovative research to the hospital campus. Along those lines, NLFH and Erie Family Health Center will expand their collaboration to bring a new primary care medical residency program as well as a new FQHC site to Lake County, which will bring additional access to primary health care services for the underserved residents of Lake County.

I believe that the revitalization project is an essential investment in health care for Lake County residents, who will strongly benefit from the top-tier quality of the physicians, nurses and the entire health care team at NLFH.

I thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,


Scott R. Drury
State Representative – 58th District