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Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Dept. of Public Health
Health Facilities and Service Review Board
525 W. Jefferson St, Second Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Ms. Avery:

Earlier this month I responded to a request from Palos Community Hospital for a letter of support for the "expansion/construction" of a new ambulatory office building in Orland Park. I was happy to comply with this request. I am always supportive of any effort to expand the delivery of health services in my district.

However, since writing and sending the letter it has come to my attention that the existing health and wellness center operated by the Palos site will be demolished to make room for the newly proposed office building and parking lot. Regrettably, this important information was not presented to me in the initial request for a letter of support.

I am dismayed to learn that the fitness center is going to be closed. Many of my constitutes use the facility's unique services. As such, I sent a letter urging Palos Community Hospital to reconsider its decision to close the fitness center. If the existing fitness center cannot be preserved as part of the expansion plan, I urge Palos to include a similar fitness center in the new facility should Palos receive a Certificate of Need from the state board.

Sincerely,

Bill Cunningham
Illinois State Senator, 18th District