



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE GENERAL COURT
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1053

Robbie Goldstein, MD, PhD
Commissioner, Department of Public Health
250 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02108

October 18, 2024

Commissioner Goldstein,

We write to you today in our capacity as legislators representing constituencies who rely on medical services provided at locations under the Norwood Hospital license (#2114) overseen by your Department, which is set to expire on November 5th. The expiration of this license creates further issues for a region already facing the negative impacts of the closure of Norwood Hospital over the last four years.

Under Norwood Hospital's license, various satellite locations providing critical outpatient services continue to operate. This includes services at the Guild Imaging Center of Norwood Hospital and Norwood Performance Therapy in Norwood in addition to the Norwood Hospital Cancer Center at Foxboro. Expiration of this license in less than one month will shut down these outpatient facilities, ensuring that a multitude of patients' access to lifesaving treatments are terminated.

Those receiving treatments such as chemotherapy administered at Norwood Hospital Cancer Center at Foxboro deserve better than this. Many patients who are facing some of life's biggest challenges will suddenly need to locate a new provider to receive treatment. Furthermore, many healthcare professionals will suddenly be out of a job. There is no question that Steward Health Care's recklessness and mismanagement has created this public health crisis and that Steward- and only Steward- is to blame for this; but we must do everything that we can to work collaboratively to ensure that a new operator takes over these satellite locations as quickly and as efficiently as possible.

In the short term, we respectfully request that you to extend Norwood Hospital's license to allow for these patients to have more time to find a new location to receive their treatments and to ensure that medical professionals are not immediately put out of work. Understanding that Steward Health Care has filed for bankruptcy, we know that this extension can not be long-term, though we do need to ensure that those who are most negatively affected by the closure of these facilities have this necessary flexibility.

Thank you for your consideration of our request for an extension of Norwood Hospital's license before your Department. We look forward to continued partnership and collaboration to ensure that healthcare professionals and patients are further protected from Steward's recklessness.

Sincerely,



Mike Rush
State Senator
Norfolk & Suffolk District



Paul R. Feeney
State Senator
Bristol & Norfolk District



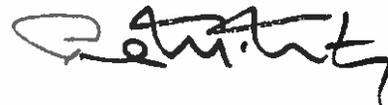
John H. Rogers
State Representative
12th Norfolk District



F. Jay Barrows
State Representative
1st Bristol District



Rebecca L. Rausch
State Senator
Norfolk, Worcester & Middlesex District



Paul McMurtry
State Representative
11th Norfolk District



William C. Galvin
State Representative
6th Norfolk District



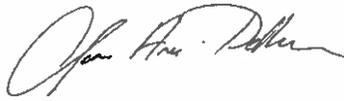
Walter F. Timilty
State Senator
Norfolk, Bristol & Plymouth District



Edward R. Philips
State Representative
8th Norfolk District



Gerard J. Cassidy
State Representative
9th Plymouth District



James Arena-DeRosa
State Representative
8th Middlesex District

James K. Hawkins
State Representative
2nd Bristol District



Marcus S. Vaughn
State Representative
9th Norfolk District