

## North Carolina General Assembly House of Representatilies State Legislatile Building Raleigh 27601-1096

## REPRESENTATIVE ROGER WEST

120TH DISTRICT

OFFICE ADDRESS: 1004 LEGISLATIVE BUILDING

RALEIGH, NC 27601-1096

TELEPHONE:

(919) 733-5859

(919) 733-2599 FAX

HOME ADDRESS: P.O. Box 160

MARBLE, NC 28905

August 11, 2016

T.J. Pulliam, MD, Chair Long Term Care Committee C/O Ms. Paige Bennet, Assistant Chief Healthcare Planning Division of Health Service Regulation 2704 Mail Service Center Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2704

Re: Letter of support of to acquire a dialysis facility in Graham County, North Carolina

Dear Dr. T.J. Pulliam,

I am writing this letter to express my support for the adjusted need determination to be included in the 2017 State Medical Facilities Plan for a new dialysis facility in Graham County.

An End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) dialysis facility in Graham County will improve the quality of life for these residents who must travel a minimum of 70 miles roundtrip to the closest facility in order to receive this life sustaining treatment. These mileage's alone, along with 6 to 9 hours of treatments dramatically impacts their quality of life. The dialysis facility will help to prevent much of the hardship they currently face.

Many curvy steep roads, snow, ice and heavy fog, often prevent the dialysis patient from being able to get to facility for treatment. Graham County has an extremely high death rate in NC due to the roads which can also cause delays for the dialysis patients to receive treatment. These hardships have negative impacts on the quality of life for both Graham County residents that need treatment and those that assist them in traveling to the facility.



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I urge you to assist the residents of Graham County. If I can help to answers any questions or concerns that you may have, please contact me at any time.

Thank you,

Representative Roger West,