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December 10, 2024

Dr. Debra L. Bogen
Secretary
PA Department of Health
Health and Human Services Building
8th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Dr. Bogen:

I am writing regarding medical services at Bradford Regional Medical Center in the City of Bradford, McKean County.

The Bradford Regional Medical Center (BRMC) is a member of Kaleida Health System, Buffalo, NY, and a part of the Upper Allegheny Health System, which includes Olean General Hospital (OGH) in Olean, NY.

Kaleida Health System recently announced it is further reducing health care services at Bradford Regional Medical Center by closing behavioral health services. I have been contacted by many constituents who are very concerned with the pattern of diminishing medical services, including relocation of many services across state lines to the New York facility.

In 2009, when BRMC and OGH joined to form Upper Allegheny Health System, local officials, including myself, were encouraged by hospital officials to support this effort to enhance health care services in our rural region. Unfortunately, since that time all we have seen is a continual reduction in services.

I know the Pennsylvania Department of Health licenses and provides regulatory authority over hospitals and health care systems in the Commonwealth. I am requesting that you investigate this situation to ensure Kaleida Health System is complying with all Pennsylvania regulations and assurances made when BRMC was legally merged with OGH and Kaleida assumed ownership of both facilities.

Your support and intervention are needed to ensure that life-saving health care services continue for the residents of Bradford, McKean County and surrounding communities. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Martin T. Causer".

Martin T. Causer
State Representative
67th Legislative District

MTC/