

The Honorable E. Benjamin Nelson
United States Senate
720 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-2706

Dear Senator Nelson,

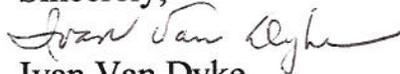
I urge your support of Faith Regional Health Services's request for federal funding of two million dollars to assist in the purchase and installation of equipment to connect eleven Northeast Nebraska health care facilities to the EMR system of Faith Regional Health.

Having lived in Norfolk since 1960 and serving on the Norfolk City Council for the past seventeen years, I am acutely aware of the importance of FRHS to Norfolk and Northeast Nebraska. Since the combining of Our Lady of Lourdes and Lutheran Community hospitals in 1996, I have witnessed the phenomenal expansion of facilities and services. I have every confidence in the growth oriented hospital board, excellent affiliated doctors, and the support staff under the direction and guidance of Jim Sinek. I see FRHS as the primary care facility for, not only, Northeast Nebraska, but also, North Central Nebraska and South Central South Dakota.

Please, do what you can to secure the grant money which would allow FRHS to proceed with their ten million dollar electronic health record implementation. The grant would allow FRHS to extend the benefits to the eleven rural partners in Northeast Nebraska.

Thanks for considering this request and for your dedicated service to Norfolk, Nebraska, and the Nation. Your hard work in getting the health bill out of the Senate was courageous and appreciated. I wish you continued success in adapting the Senate version with the House bill.

Sincerely,



Ivan Van Dyke

President Norfolk City Council