

January 22, 2010

The Honorable E. Benjamin Nelson
United States Senate
720 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-2706

Dear Senator Nelson:

I am writing to ask consideration of my support for Faith Regional Health Services' (FRHS) pursuit of federal appropriations for Fiscal Year 2010. FRHS has been a part of the community of Norfolk for many years and consistently strives to provide first-rate healthcare for the city of Norfolk and the surrounding communities. Their quality care, education, technology, and clinical outreach are unmatched in Northeast Nebraska.

FRHS is currently working on a \$10m electronic health record implementation. The additional federal funds will allow them to continue efforts in reaching their goal of this vital implementation. The electronic health record gives FRHS and our region's rural hospitals and clinics access to the most advanced medical imaging technology while also reducing the costs of transmitting information from significant distances. As well, this process will shorten the length of time of correspondence between hospitals in our region, which is crucial to saving lives. FRHS strives to continue to provide tremendous leadership in expanding access to and enhancing the quality of healthcare for everyone in Northeast Nebraska.

As Mayor of Norfolk, and one of many citizens of Northeast Nebraska who is directly affected by FRHS, I thank you in your consideration to appropriate federal funds to FRHS for Fiscal Year 2010 and help them reach their goal of making a difference in the lives of the people of Northeast Nebraska. I am tremendously grateful for the opportunity that these federal funds for Fiscal Year 2010 could provide to FRHS, and I again strongly recommend the awarding of this grant to them.

Sincerely,



Sue Fuchtman
Mayor
City of Norfolk

