

Subject: Pending Certificate of Need for Genesis Healthcare

Dear GMCB members:

I'm writing you as a Vermonter concerned by the news that you are currently reviewing a certificate of need application from Genesis Healthcare Inc., related to that company's purchase of several nursing homes in Vermont.

As I'm sure you know, Genesis is an extremely large company, which apparently carries a very large amount of long term debt: \$410,845,000 according to its 2014 annual statement. It's also the subject of several current investigations and potential lawsuits, which it details in Item 3 of its 2014 annual report. In the past, it has faced several other lawsuits, some of which it tried to avoid by invoking mandatory arbitration clauses it inserted into the standard admission contract that patients had to sign to enter their nursing homes.

I urge each member of the GMCB board to carefully and thoroughly evaluate the application from Genesis. Patients in our nursing home are among the most vulnerable of our citizens. You owe it to them, and to the state as a whole, to make sure that any company which is allowed to make profits from their care can be trusted to provide quality care, rather than cutting corners to improve their bottom line.

Thank you for your time and your consideration.

Lee Russ
Bennington, VT