



ASSEMBLY MEMBER

Patrick O'Donnell

DISTRICT 70



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
June 18, 2018

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O'Donnell Urges MemorialCare to Work with City to Keep Community Hospital Open

Assemblymember O'Donnell responds to latest development in the effort to keep Community Hospital Long Beach operational

(Sacramento) – Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell (D — Long Beach) issued the following statement Monday in response to a letter MemorialCare issued last week underscoring its intent to close Community Hospital July 3. The letter was sent following the City's announcement recommending a new provider to take over Community Hospital operations.

“It is painfully clear that MemorialCare wants to be the only provider in town. Since announcing their intent to leave Community Hospital last fall, MemorialCare radically accelerated their closure timeline again and again. MemorialCare appears to be actively working to ensure that no other entity can take over the hospital they are leaving behind. MemorialCare cannot have it both ways.”

Community Hospital offers the only full-service emergency room on the east side of the city. Closure would significantly impact the region's trauma care system and further strain the health care safety net.

“MemorialCare has made their business decision. The rest of us are doing our part to protect the public's health and safety, save local jobs, and keep Community Hospital open. I want to thank the City and stakeholders for working diligently to find a new provider to potentially take over the hospital. It is the expectation from Sacramento that MemorialCare will work with the City to seamlessly transition the hospital to another provider. This should be done without any interruption in critical healthcare services.”

The City of Long Beach announced Friday that it will consider Molina, Wu, Network (MWN), LLC to run CHLB. MemorialCare reiterated its plan to close the hospital in the letter issued to the City last Friday.

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Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell represents the 70th Assembly District, which includes Long Beach, Signal Hill, San Pedro and Catalina Island.