

I urge a no vote on the legislation.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF PIH HEALTH DOWNEY HOSPITAL

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 2020

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize PIH Health Downey Hospital on its upcoming 100th anniversary. On September 14, 2020, the hospital will proudly celebrate and reflect on the 100 years of service and care that its facilities and its staff have provided. Through the years, the hospital has been a cornerstone of the Downey community, caring for generations of local residents.

From its beginnings as Virginia Hospital in 1920, with six beds and two doctors in rooms on the second floor of a former hotel on what is now Downey Avenue, this hospital's history has been eventful and full of advances. Within two years of its opening, an explosion in the city made the hospital's value clear and showed the need for larger facilities. Two years later, a new 15-bed hospital opened on East 5th Street.

In the 1930s, a group of five physicians purchased the hospital and renamed it Downey Community Hospital (DCH). Growth before and after World War II added operating rooms, modern X-ray equipment, maternity and obstetrics wards, and an emergency department with round-the-clock care. By 1956, the same year the city of Downey became incorporated, DCH reorganized as a nonprofit hospital with 49 beds.

In the mid-1960s, construction began on a new 152-bed facility at the current location on Brookshire Avenue. The day after this facility opened in 1969, eight surgeries were performed. Within a week, the hospital was full.

Over the subsequent decades, DCH continued to grow its facilities, resources, and services to meet the health care needs of the growing community. In 1999, Downey Community Hospital became Downey Regional Medical Center (DRMC), a total health care system that included a 199-bed hospital and DRMC Insurance Services. Downey Regional Medical Plaza opened in 2003.

In 2013, a Management Services Agreement signed between DRMC and PIH Health created an opportunity for greater collaboration between the two mission-based nonprofit organizations. Downey Regional Medical Center, with the approval of the California Attorney General's office, became part of the PIH Health family as PIH Health Hospital—Downey

on October 1, 2013. The hospital was renamed PIH Health Downey Hospital in 2019. This new partnership has been crucial to meeting Southern Californians' expanding health care needs.

Over the last century, PIH Health Downey Hospital has changed and evolved, but it has always been driven by a mission to provide the best care for its patients and our communities and making enhancements and updates to achieve this goal. It is now the second hospital of a vastly growing health system that services more than three million people.

As PIH Health Downey Hospital looks to the future, the hospital and its staff remain committed to honoring a legacy of healing and hope. By prioritizing the needs of its patients and dedicating itself to meeting their needs and expectations for generations to come, the hospital will continue to have a positive impact in the community for the next 100 years and beyond.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in thanking and congratulating PIH Health Downey Hospital, and its more than 5,100 compassionate and valued staff, on the hospital's celebration of 100 years providing high-quality health care, and contributing to the health and well-being of our communities in an ethical, safe, and fiscally prudent manner.