Illinois State Senate

Springfield Office

M122 Capitol Building Springfield, IL 62706 217-782-8066 217-782-2115 (FAX) harris@senatedem.ilga.gov www.senatornapoleonharris.com





Napoleon B. Harris III

Senator 15th Legislative District RECEIVED

District Office

369 E. 147th Street

Harvey, JL 60426 708-893-0552

708-566-4108 (FAX)

senatorharrisdistrictoffice@gmail.com www.senatornapoleonharris.com

AUG 1 5 2018

HEALTH FACILITIES & SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

July 25, 2018

Ms. Courtney R. Avery Administrator Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board 525 West Jefferson Street, Second Floor Springfield, Illinois 62761

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am writing to urge you to approve Advocate South Suburban Hospital's Certificate of Need application to modernize its procedural services areas – operating rooms, cardiovascular services and endoscopy. The project is instrumental in the medical center continuing to provide high-level care, and includes new space for some departments, as well as better utilizing existing space within the medical center located in Hazel Crest.

As a state senator for the Legislative 15th District, I am comforted that my constituents are able to receive high-quality care on Chicago's southside. Renovation and modernization will ensure that care provided at South Suburban Hospital continues to advance. The residents in the district that I represent depend on the institution's services and on its continuing ability to offer the highest levels of care expected at a community hospital.

Additionally, with about 1,400 team members and more than 780 physicians, the hospital is a major employer in the region. Allowing this institution to proceed with needed modernization not only helps guarantee the ongoing availability of necessary health care services, but serves to bolster the economic vitality of the region, including the creation of more jobs.

I believe the modernization of health care services such as this are necessary if we are to maintain strong, healthy communities well into the future, and I ask that you approve the Certificate of Need for this project.

Sincerely,

Napoleon B. Harris III

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