

Ms. Debra Savage, Chair

Illinois Health Facilities and Service Review Board

25 West Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Springfield IL 62761

RE: OrthoILLinois Surgery Center Elgin, LLC

Project No.20-040, Letter of Concern

Dear Ms. Savage,

I am a lifelong resident of the Elgin community. I am concerned about the proposed OrthoILLinois Surgery Center. I believe that it would have an adverse effect on Sherman hospital as well as other area hospitals.

Advocate Sherman Hospital has served the medical needs of our community for over 125 years. It acts as a safety net for thousands of people in the region. As a level 11 Trauma Center Sherman performs a critical function for the region, stabilizing and treating anyone that comes into its Emergency Department regardless of their ability to pay. Advocate Sherman Hospital is the only hospital in Elgin that delivers babies, an essential service in our community.

OrthoILLinois is a for-profit orthopedic group that has no obligation to the community to serve at-risk populations. In fact, it has shown that they largely do not serve these populations.

During the pandemic, Sherman has taken care of the region in our hour of need, We need to acknowledge the toll the pandemic has taken on the front line health care workers as well as the hospital. Because of their commitment to offer these services Sherman continues to operate at a loss.

Orthopedic procedures are one of the highly reimbursed specialties and these procedures help cross-subsidize losses Advocate Sherman Hospital that incurs from providing low and no reimbursement services. I believe the proposed new facility would have a devastating effect on the ability of not-for-profit hospitals to provide essential services needed in our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

