

July 2, 2021

Ms. Debra Savage, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
25 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Re: Orthollinois Surgery Center Elgin, LLC
Project No. 20-040, Letter of Opposition

Dear Ms. Savage,

My name is John Devereux, and I am an elected official serving as a school board member in District U-46 where my children attended for nearly 20 years. Our school district is one of the most diverse in the Illinois and many of the families in our district are considered disadvantaged. I know firsthand the needs of many of these families and the challenges that they face. One of these challenges is access to affordable health care, especially safety net services which are primarily provided by our local hospital.

I do not want to continue seeing this already underserved community continue to be underserved as a result of a for-profit surgery center coming into our area that is intended to redirect surgeries relied on by the hospital to cross-subsidize safety net services. The permit application for the proposed project states that, as a surgery center, it will not provide safety net services. Essentially, the proposed project will divert scarce health care dollars largely used by the local hospital to provide safety net services into the hands of less than a dozen private investors in the surgery center. As an elected official, I cannot support an organization coming into our community that benefits very few at the expense of the community at large and many of the families I represent.

Thank you for allowing me to present my position to you. In my position as a board member, I always welcome opinions from leaders in the community I serve. Please do not take for granted our collective community voice in opposition to Orthollinois coming into our community.

Sincerely,



John Devereux
U-46 School Board Member