



March 15, 2022

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

RE: Illinois Masonic Hospital Expansion Project

Dear Ms. Avery,

As the director of our Maternal Fetal Medicine Department, I am very excited to support Illinois Masonic Medical Center expansion project.

I have been at Illinois Masonic for the past 22 years and I can assure you that our patients would greatly benefit from this expansion.

Currently, pregnant patients from our neighborhood would receive prenatal care elsewhere and too often they would end up at our Hospital in emergency situations. Without having immediate access to their prenatal care records, the pregnancy would be at increased risk for adverse outcomes. As you are aware, prenatal care is one of the most common preventive care services in the United States and Illinois has one of the higher maternal mortality rate.

Therefore, the addition of a modernized operating room and offering private inpatient room would significantly enhance the choice of patients to receive prenatal care in their neighborhood and allow our team to be more efficient in providing care.

In summary, having a modernized Women's Health facility would afford patient to deliver their newborn in their neighborhood and no longer have travel away from families and friends.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jude Duval", written over a horizontal line.

Jude Duval, MD
Director of Maternal Fetal Medicine
Advocate Aurora Illinois Masonic Hospital