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April 22, 2022

Ms. Debra Savage, Chair Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board 525 West Jefferson Street, Second Floor Springfield, Illinois 62761

RE: Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center Project No. 22-009

Dear Ms. Savage:

I am writing to ask the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board to join me in support of Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center's proposed modernization project on its hospital campus in the 44th Ward. Illinois Masonic has been serving the citizens of the Lakeview community for more than 100 years. It is Chicago's North Side Level 1 Trauma Center, providing much-needed medical care for patients with the most critical injuries and illnesses, and is a designated Comprehensive Stroke Center. Illinois Masonic has Magnet status for nursing excellence and has been recognized as a leader in providing equal health care services for the LGBTQ community year after year by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation's Health Care Equity Index report.

In addition, with more than 800 nurses on staff and more than 1,200 physicians working at the hospital, it is a major employer in our region and an economic driver in the community.

I appreciate Advocate Aurora Health's continued investment in this important health care pillar of my community and believe this modernization will benefit Chicago for years to come. As health care evolves, so too must our facilities evolve to meet the needs of the community.

I respectfully request the that the Planning Board approve this Certificate Of Need so that we can further strengthen our ability to maintain a healthy community well into the future.

Sincerely,

Thomas Tunney 44th Ward Alderman