



August 9, 2023

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

Re: Establishment of Cardiac Catheterization – Second Letter of Support, Springfield Clinic Ambulatory Surgery Center

Dear Chairwoman Savage:

The Illinois State Medical Society (ISMS) appreciates the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board's (IHFSRB) consideration of our October 12, 2022 letter in support of Springfield Clinic's application for a Certificate of Need to establish cardiac catheterization services at its Ambulatory Surgery Center in Springfield. The ISMS writes again to further advocate for our support of Springfield Clinic and respectfully urges approval of Springfield Clinic's updated application.

A priority for ISMS is ensuring access to medical care for every Illinois resident. As noted in Springfield Clinic's supplemental submission, the number of cardiac catheterization labs has remained stagnant while the number of cases performed at such labs has increased 58% since 2004. Springfield Clinic desires to keep up with the needs of its patient population to provide this vital service, but wait times are currently 41 days from a positive stress test to a catheterization procedure due to the lack of capacity. This is dangerous, as the longer patients wait for such procedures, the risk of a major cardiac event such as death or myocardial infarction increases. The addition of new cardiac catheterization labs would make a paramount difference for patients in central Illinois; for some, this is a matter of life and death.

The physicians of the Illinois State Medical Society very much appreciate your consideration and again respectfully urge you and the other members of the Health and Facilities Planning Board to approve Springfield Clinic's application.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Anderson, M.D.
Chair, Board of Trustees
Illinois State Medical Society

cc: Rodney S. Alford, M.D., M.B.A.
Piyush I. Vyas, M.D.
Alexander R. Lerner