



A COMMUNITY OF CARING

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

Dear Chairwoman Savage:

As a family medicine physician, I am writing in support of Springfield Clinic's application for a Certificate of Need to establish cardiac catheterization services at our surgery center in Springfield.

As a primary care provider, delivering the most timely, effective and safe care, particularly for cardiac events where every minute matters, is of the utmost importance in medicine. The challenge to provide quality care has been magnified by the recent economic hardships many health care organizations are facing leading to significant staff reductions cutting off access points to care for patients and increasing wait times to dangerous levels.

As a trustee on the Illinois State Medical Society (ISMS) Board of Directors, I have a unique opportunity to discuss issues like access to care with physicians from throughout the state. Our goal at ISMS is to achieve the highest quality health care for all Illinoisans. That includes ensuring that availability of care throughout the state, including central Illinois, is at a level to ensure patient care can be completed in a timely manner for all. This catheterization lab will help us do just that for patients dealing with cardiac abnormalities.

I support Springfield Clinic establishing a cardiac catheterization lab at our Surgery Center in Springfield to provide immediate access for our cardiac patients to superior care quickly and at a lower cost.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry Sapetti", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Larry Sapetti, MD