

GENERAL TEAMSTERS / PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL EMPLOYEES
LOCAL UNION No. 916

AFFILIATED WITH THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS
SEAN M. O'BRIEN, GENERAL PRESIDENT



September 13, 2023

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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, Letter of Support Springfield Clinic Surgery Center - Springfield

Dear Chairwoman Savage:

I write to you in support of Springfield Clinic's application for a Certificate of Need to establish cardiac catheterization services at their Surgery Center in Springfield based on my personal and professional experiences.

I have personal experience with the importance of specialized cardiac procedures. In 2012, I firsthand had the experience of a cardiac catheterization at a local hospital. To this date, I have had a total of five cardiac catheters all of which have been in a hospital setting. My cardiac care has unfortunately expanded past central Illinois due to delays in access to quality care and facilities. Being away from your loved ones while enduring a significant medical issue is an additional critical and stressful burden on the patient and the family. It is a burden that I am positive less families will endure once the Clinic's Cath Services are established.

As you can see, the expansion of catheterization services in downtown Springfield will provide desperately needed access and positive health care outcomes for our members in their time of need for these life-saving procedures. Issues of access to these critical procedures are not new and only continue to grow both in number and urgency. It is in the best interest of our members and their families to have a choice in locations to perform these specialized procedures, and Springfield Clinic is a trusted partner for our members in both their personal primary and specialty care.

My Local, Teamsters Local Union 916, is made up of over 4,000 hard-working men and women throughout the state of Illinois who with their families rely on the services and care of Springfield Clinic and health systems in central Illinois. In contract bargaining I negotiate terms covering health insurance issues and health care benefit plans. Similarly, as a Trustee on Taft Hartley health care plan I oversee four health plans for over 5,000 participants plus their dependents. The medical issues of cost, coverage, outcomes and care are daily conversations for us.

My members and their families deserve high quality care for whatever needs they have and most importantly keeping their care local, having timely access and most importantly at a cost-savings.

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Many of our members have firsthand experience with the quality of care and treatment of outpatient procedures at the Surgery Center in Springfield at a cost-savings compared to traditional hospital-based centers. The building and expansion of these new service lines will also serve as an economic benefit for our working families.

I fully support Springfield Clinic establishing cardiac catheterization services at its Surgery Center in Springfield. I respectfully ask your approval of this CON application.

Thank you,

JP Fyans, III
President

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