## ILLINOIS STATE SENATE

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Michael E. Hastings STATE SENATOR · 19<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT

Majority Caucus Whip

Committee Assignments:

Energy and Public
Utilities (Chair)
Education
Executive
Insurance
Judiciary

August 8, 2022

Debra Savage Chairwoman Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board 525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: Advocate South Suburban Hospital

Dear Chairwoman Savage,

I am writing in enthusiastic support of Advocate South Suburban Hospital's Certificate of Need application to establish Acute Mental Health Services in the Chicago south suburbs.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we all witnessed the negative impact the virus played on our lives. As we are continuing to confront the health, social and economic impacts of COVID-19, it has become evident that the need for a broad scope of behavioral health care services is increasingly critical for residents of our community. The relocation of Advocate's south Chicagoland program to its South Suburban campus in a state-of-the-art, modernized inpatient behavioral health unit—as well as their investment in outpatient behavioral health care—could not come at a better time.

Having served the 19th District for nearly 15 years and as a resident of the Chicago south suburbs, I can attest that investing in greater mental health services will be an enhancement to our communities. Therefore, I would appreciate and urge the support of the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Hastings