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February 16, 2023

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

Re: Letter of Support for Advocate Health Care's Ambulatory Surgery Treatment Center

Dear Ms. Savage:

I am the Executive Director of Union Health Service, Inc. ("UHS"), a not-for-profit corporation organized under the Illinois Voluntary Health Services Plans Act. UHS provides primary healthcare and some specialty healthcare services to our members in the Chicagoland area. We also partner with several healthcare facilities to provide the services we are not able to, so that our members can receive the comprehensive care they need.

For many decades, Advocate Health Care has been a valued partner that have helped serve the healthcare needs of our members and their families in the communities they live and work. As healthcare has evolved, our members have benefited from the advancements Advocate Health Care has made over the years.

Advocate Health Care's ambulatory surgery treatment center project is a necessary advancement we fully support and are excited about for the following reasons:

- Many more procedures and surgeries are now being transitioned to and performed more efficiently in an ambulatory setting;
- Patients will have the opportunity to have their procedures or surgeries done in a specialized center without the worry and stress of a typical hospital visit (i.e., big and impersonal hospital setting, higher risk of exposure to infection and contagious illnesses in hospital setting, etc.);
- The center will focus on certain specialties with more predictable schedules, which will reduce delays, wait times, and rescheduled procedures and surgeries for patients;
- The center offers a more affordable alternative to hospital-based care;
- Overall, the center will provide a smoother healthcare experience, and a higher patient satisfaction, comfort, and convenience for patients.

We kindly request the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board approve Advocate Health Care's CON application for its ambulatory surgery treatment center. This project is in the best interest of the community. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marsha Liu
Executive Director

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