

February 15, 2023

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

## Re: Advocate Ambulatory Surgery Center - Chicago Webster Project

Dear Ms. Savage:

Howard Brown Health ("HBH") is pleased to support the application of Advocate Health and Hospitals Corporation ("Advocate") for a Certificate of Need in connection with Advocate's Ambulatory Surgery Center - Chicago Webster Project (the "Project").

HBH exists to eliminate the disparities in healthcare experienced by LGBTQ people through research, education, and the provision of services that promote health and wellness. Founded in 1974, HBH is now one of the nation's largest LGBTQ-focused healthcare organizations, annually serving over 40,000 adults and youth in its diverse health and social service delivery system focused around seven major programmatic divisions: primary medical care, behavioral health, research, HIV/STI prevention, youth services, elder services, and community initiatives.

HBH has enjoyed a long, productive relationship with Advocate through a variety of relationships and collaborative efforts benefitting HBH patients and the Chicagoland community. Advocate has long been an ally and partner to HBH's mission, and has greatly supported and advanced care coordination and access to care for our patients as a leader in specialty and hospital-based health care services.

In that regard, HBH fully supports the efforts of Advocate reflected in the Project, which would expand and modernize their healthcare services and advance their founding principle of being dedicated to changing patient expectations by giving them easy access to all they need to stay well, live well, and achieve outstanding treatment outcomes. The Project would allow for greater access to and continuity of care both for HBH patients and for the Chicagoland community at large.

Accordingly, HBH fully supports Advocate's application, and requests approval of a Certificate of Need for the Project. Please contact me should you have questions.

Sincerely,

HOWARD BROWN HEALTH

David Ernesto Munar President & CEO