

103C State House  
Springfield, Illinois 62706  
217-782-2479  
FAX: 217-782-9586



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
ILLINOIS STATE SENATE

**JIL TRACY**  
STATE SENATOR  
47TH DISTRICT  
SENATE MINORITY WHIP

October 20, 2022

Ms. Debra Savage, Chair  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 West Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: US HealthVest and OSF Healthcare System Behavioral Health Hospital Letter of Support

Chairwoman Savage and Members of the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board:

As an elected official serving in the State Senate, addressing my constituents' concerns is of the utmost importance to me. I am writing to express my support of the plans by US HealthVest and OSF Healthcare System to build a 100-bed adult behavioral health hospital in Peoria, Illinois through a joint venture.

Nationwide, one in five adults suffers from a diagnosable mental illness in a given year. Every day, 123 Americans die by suicide, and there is one death by suicide in the US every 12 minutes. Mental illness, whether acute or chronic, is a serious concern across communities I represent.

The design and construction of a new inpatient mental health hospital with a full continuum of services in Peoria in central Illinois will help address these unmet needs. People across Illinois who require varying levels of behavioral health care will find the compassion, support and access to clinical expertise they need, close to home.

I stand with US HealthVest and OSF in supporting patients and families throughout Illinois who are seeking local access to inpatient behavioral health care. I appreciate your consideration and request your support of this project and approval by the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jil Tracy".

State Senator Jil Tracy  
Illinois 47<sup>th</sup> District