

May 4, 2023

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

Dear Ms. Savage,

I am writing to you as Interim Regional Medical Director for Hospitalist Services in Illinois, to acknowledge my support for the Advocate Christ Medical Center medical/surgical expansion project. I have been a member of the medical staff at Advocate Health for over 18-years and have served in a leadership role for the majority of this time within the enterprise.

With Advocate Christ Medical Center being the only tertiary/quaternary referral center and Level 1 trauma center in the region, the medical/surgical expansion project will significantly help to improve access for the residents in the South Chicagoland Area. The COVID-19 pandemic has only exacerbated the need for additional medical/surgical beds at Advocate Christ Medical Center, and a shortage of beds creates access issues for patients requiring specialized care. Patients residing in the region depend on Advocate Christ Medical Center for their higher level of care. Additionally, it is the hospital in the service area that admits the most critically ill patients.

I respectfully ask the Illinois Health Facility and Services review board to approve Advocate Christ Medical Center's med-surg expansion project. The Surgical Modernization Project allows the ability to provide excellent, state of the art technologies to complement the exceptional health care services our community has come to expect and deserve.

Sincerely,



Joanna Maurice, MD, FHM  
Interim Regional Medical Director, IL Hospitalist Services

