



October 20, 2023

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

Mr. John P. Kniery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and
Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: Letter of Support
For Certificate of Need Project 23-037
OSF St. Joseph Medical Center Bed Expansion

Dear Ms. Savage and Mr. Kniery

I am writing in support of the proposed project at OSF St. Joseph Medical Center (SJMC) in Bloomington to add 15 ICU and 10 medical/surgical beds.

OSF St. Joseph Medical Center plays an important role as a referral center for hospitals and other health care providers in the central Illinois. In the past three years, our hospital has referred 66 patients to SJMC. Many of these referrals enabled patients to receive specialized services that are either not provided at our hospital, or because our hospital was at capacity and beds/staffing were not available. SJMC has been accommodating our requests when they had available beds to accommodate our patients. On occasion SJMC was at capacity and unable to accommodate referrals, which is testimony to their need for additional beds.

I urge the Health Facilities and Services Review Board to approve this project at its meeting on December 5, 2023.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jackie Kernan".

Jackie Kernan
President
OSF HealthCare Saint Luke Medical Center
1051 West South St.
Kewanee, IL 61443

Cc: Lynn A. Fulton, President, OSF St. Joseph Medical Center
Mark Hohulin, Senior Vice President, Healthcare Analytics, OSF Healthcare System