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December 17, 2024

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

Re: Project # 24-035

Dear Chair Savage,

I am writing today in support of a recent Certificate of Need application filed by Carle Health to the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board. Carle Health's proposal includes an expansion of capacity of the "Carle at the Fields" Ambulatory Surgery Center, in southwest Champaign. Although not located in the immediate boundaries of my 51st Senate District, the proposed facility expansion would be heavily utilized by many of my constituents.

The Surgery Center expansion project aligns with Carle's initial vision for the facility and addresses critical healthcare needs in our community. The expanded facility would allow Carle Health to meet growing demand for additional operating rooms, and it would address an insufficient number of prep and recovery bays at the existing ASC. The expanded facility would also help Carle Health in their ability to recruit additional physicians to the Champaign-Urbana region. Perhaps most importantly, adding operating rooms and prep/recovery spaces will allow Carle Health to shift appropriate procedures from Carle Foundation Hospital's outpatient surgical department to the lower cost ASC setting, resulting in lower out-of-pocket expenses for patients.

Carle Health is looking towards the future with this proposed CON application. Changes in population demographics, disease prevalence, payor coverage decisions, and technological advancements in minimally invasive surgical approaches have all contributed to significant increases in the demand for ASTC services in the recent past. By expanding capacity to address this increase in demand, Carle Health will ensure continued access to ambulatory surgical care, which is essential to the overall well-being of the community. For all these reasons, and the significant benefits that this proposal would bring to my constituents, I am happy to support this application. If I can provide any further information, please do not hesitate to contact my staff.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chapin Rose".

Chapin Rose
State Senator – 51st District