

August 23, 2024

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Members of the Review Board,

This letter expresses my full support for KSB Hospital's affiliation with OSF HealthCare. As the President of Midland States Bank, which has a significant presence in the Sauk Valley area through our local branches and dedicated staff, I recognize the critical role that KSB Hospital plays in the health and well-being of the community we serve.

KSB Hospital has a long-standing reputation for delivering exceptional care, and this affiliation with OSF HealthCare is a strategic move that will only strengthen that legacy. The partnership between KSB and OSF HealthCare reflects a shared commitment to enhancing the quality of care available to local residents, which, in turn, supports the overall vitality of our community. I see firsthand how important accessible and high-quality healthcare is to the residents and employees of our community.

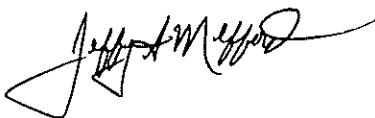
I understand the significance of having a strong, reliable healthcare system close to home. This affiliation will ensure that KSB Hospital continues to provide the top-notch medical services that our community has come to rely on, while also expanding access to specialized care through OSF's Centers of Excellence. Keeping healthcare local not only benefits individuals and families but also contributes to the stability and growth of our community as a whole, which is something I am deeply invested in as a business leader.

My confidence in this partnership stems from the alignment of KSB and OSF HealthCare's missions, both of which prioritize patient-centered care and a commitment to innovation. I am certain that this affiliation will bring about positive changes that will benefit not only the hospital and its patients but also the broader community that depends on the services provided by KSB.

In closing, I fully support the affiliation of KSB Hospital with OSF HealthCare and believe that this partnership will significantly enhance the quality of care available to the Sauk Valley area.

Thank you for considering my letter of support as part of KSB Hospital's Certificate of Need application.

Sincerely,



Jeff Mefford
President
Midland States Bank