

# Sue Rezin

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Thursday, July 11, 2024

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

Re: Project 24-011 OSF Saint Elizabeth Medical Center, Ottawa *and/or*  
Project 24-013 OSF Saint Elizabeth Medical Center *and/or*  
Project 24-014 OSF Saint Elizabeth Medical Center, Peru

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

As a dedicated elected official committed to serving our communities, addressing the concerns of my constituents is a top priority for me. I am writing to express my full support for OSF HealthCare's plans to implement a regional healthcare model.

In recent times, we have witnessed numerous hospitals closing due to various challenges and changes. In Peru and Spring Valley, specifically, the departure just last year of St. Margaret's Health negatively impacted patient access, patient care, healthcare worker jobs, and even the economy. Through my role and discussions with constituents and experts alike, I have grown increasingly concerned about the potential emergence of healthcare deserts in our region should OSF HealthCare's plans not come to fruition.

It is imperative that all parties involved recognize the critical need to maintain and enhance healthcare services throughout our region. Therefore, I wholeheartedly endorse OSF HealthCare's initiative to expand its operations in Peru, Illinois, and to establish a new facility in nearby Ottawa.

I sincerely appreciate your attention to this matter and respectfully request your support and approval of the related Certificate of Need application(s). By working together, we can ensure that our communities continue to receive the high-quality healthcare they deserve.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Sue Rezin  
Senate Deputy Republican Leader, 38<sup>th</sup> District