

June 4, 2025

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

Dear Members of the Health Facilities and Services Review Board:

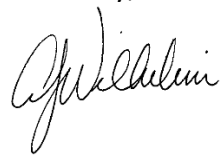
On behalf of the Illinois Health and Hospital Association (IHA), I am proud to write in support of Advocate Health Care's Certificate of Need applications for their proposed new replacement hospital on Chicago's Southeast Side.

This project represents an important investment in hospital infrastructure, health care access, and community vitality—one that stands out nationally. In cities like New York, Atlanta, Washington D.C., and Philadelphia—even in Chicago—we've seen the closure of hospitals in communities with high public payer populations and complex health needs. Advocate is taking a different path, making a historic reinvestment in the future of the South Side. If approved, this will be the first hospital built de novo on the South Side in over 100 years.

The proposed hospital will not only deliver critical inpatient services to an underserved area, but will do so through a model that integrates emergency care, chronic disease management, maternal and child health, and community partnerships to address the whole person. This forward-looking approach is critical as health care providers on the South Side work together to respond to community need and close the 30-year life expectancy gap.

I respectfully request for the Board to approve this project. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



AJ Wilhelmi

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