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February 6, 2025

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

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

I have lived in the Southland for over thirty years and as such, have seen firsthand the disparity in healthcare opportunities for underserved areas. Advocate's bold financial commitment to serve the Trinity Hospital community will significantly impact health outcomes. The new replacement hospital is creating a powerful future of hope for this community.

I wholeheartedly support Advocate's \$1 billion investment in the South Side of Chicago, including all the new avenues for outpatient care and preventive services that are key to better health. While the goal is to keep people out of the hospital and living healthier lives, we know a community hospital will still be needed for emergency needs and more critical illness. The proposed new state-of-the-art hospital at the former U.S. Steel South Works site will provide advanced treatments and high-quality care tailored to the community's needs. I like, too, that there is room to expand if needed – makes sense in these changing times.

In the construction business, we see a lot of new buildings. It's certainly the right thing to do in this case with a current hospital that is more than 100 years old – that's more than a lifetime in the building world. And new investments generate additional opportunities for retail and restaurants, support services and more. We hope to be a part of the growth and good health Advocate has spurred for the next generation and are eager to see this new, exciting chapter on the South Side begin!

Sincerely,

Mark Michuda  
Executive Vice President, Michuda Construction  
Advocate Trinity Governance Council Member