

January 17, 2025

Deborah Savage, Chairwoman
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson St. 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

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

I am writing to express my strong support for the construction of a new hospital to replace our existing facility, which has served our community for 115 years. As the Chairman and Medical Director of Emergency Medicine, I have witnessed firsthand the critical need for a modern healthcare infrastructure that can adequately meet the demands of our population.

The current hospital, while historically significant and a safety net for the community, is increasingly unable to support the breadth of services required by our patients. The aging infrastructure poses challenges to emergency care, including limited space, outdated technology, and an inability to expand services to accommodate growing patient volumes. These factors can compromise the quality of care we provide and ultimately affect patient outcomes.

The new facility would not only enable us to implement advanced medical technologies and practices but also enhance our ability to respond to emergencies effectively. The goal is to create a more efficient layout for immediate care, expand our treatment capabilities, and foster a healing environment for our patients and their families.

Moreover, investing in a new hospital is not only about enhancing emergency care; it is a commitment to the health and well-being of our entire community. It represents an opportunity to create jobs, stimulate the local economy, and attract talented healthcare professionals to our area.

I wholeheartedly support the vision of a new hospital and urge decision-makers to prioritize this vital endeavor. Together, we can ensure that our community receives the quality medical care it deserves.

Thank you for considering this crucial investment in our health care future.

Sincerely,



Ephriam T. Grimes, MD, MSPH, FACEP
Chairman and Medical Director of the Department of Emergency Medicine
Advocate Trinity Hospital