



January 21, 2025

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

Dear Chairwoman Savage,

On behalf of the Illinois Chamber of Commerce, I am pleased to fully support Advocate Health Care's proposal to replace Advocate Trinity Hospital on the Southeast Side of Chicago. This transformative project is an essential investment in healthcare and economic development, integral to our state's continued growth and prosperity.

I am sending this letter on two fronts. The first is my professional capacity as the Illinois Chamber of Commerce president and CEO. Second, as a former resident of the South Chicago area, my parents' home is located just a block from the former U.S. Steel South Works site. Due to the lack of services in the neighborhood, my parents have had to travel to the Community Hospital in Munster, IN, for quality care, so this represents a welcomed addition to the community.

The Illinois Chamber recognizes that strong, vibrant communities are critical to the success of businesses across Illinois. Advocate Health's \$300 million investment in this new hospital exemplifies how healthcare infrastructure can drive economic revitalization, generate local job opportunities, and create more resilient communities.

Furthermore, this hospital will be a cornerstone for developing a healthier workforce. Improved access to healthcare is directly tied to higher productivity, reduced absenteeism, and a stronger, more sustainable workforce. This is a fundamental concern for businesses across Illinois, and we are excited about the long-term benefits this new facility will bring regarding workforce health and stability.

The Illinois Chamber of Commerce strongly supports this critical initiative and urges its prompt approval. Thank you for your attention to this transformative project.

Sincerely,

Lou Sandoval
President and CEO, Illinois Chamber of Commerce

