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January 15, 2025

**Debra Savage**

Chairwoman, Illinois Health Facilities and Service Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Ms. Savage,

I am writing to express my support for Advocate Health Care's 1-billion dollar investment to expand access to primary care, specialty care, and wellness services to the South Side of Chicago.

It is undeniable that there is a noticeable healthcare disparity that confronts our neighbors on the South Side of Chicago. With this knowledge, Advocate Health Care has been steadfast in being a voice for community members and ensuring that these gaps and shortcomings are addressed. Their plan, co-developed by the community, offers a resolution to the significant health disparities that affect many residents on the South Side. Advocate Health Care's proposed project is one that has been long-awaited, and frankly, extremely necessary as we are all working together to provide better livelihoods for all people in Chicago.

As the Obama Foundation works towards completing the Obama Presidential Center, which will serve as a resource to South Side Chicago residents and beyond, we will continue to champion the good works of organizations that are also motivated to uplift historically unseen communities. I believe that with the additional preventative programs and services, as well as the new, state-of-the-art (replacement) community hospital, we will be better designed to serve all members of our community, including those who are most vulnerable.

I am pleased to offer my unqualified endorsement for Advocate Health Care's 1-billion-dollar investment to the community. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Strautmanis", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael Strautmanis  
Executive Vice President, External Affairs