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MAY 23 2025

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

**Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson Street
Springfield, Illinois 62761**

Dear Members of the Illinois Facilities and Services Board,

As a retired pharmacist with more than 40 years of experience-most of it spent proudly serving the people of Streator and surrounding rural communities-I write today in strong support of OSF Healthcare's regional model and its plans to relocate Intensive Care and Obstetric services to Peru, Illinois.

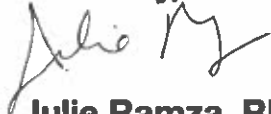
My years in owning and operating pharmacies in rural settings has taught me that practical, patient-centered decisions are essential for sustainability and access. What OSF is proposing isn't just strategic-it's common sense. Consolidating specialized services like ICU and OB in Peru ensures patients receive high-quality care from dedicated, experienced teams in facilities designed to meet the needs of today and tomorrow. This is how we build a rural health care system that works-not just for one town, but for the entire region.

There's been some opposition to the idea of building a new hospital in Ottawa. I'll say this plainly but professionally: that opposition is short-sighted. I've seen the current facility in Ottawa and I know firsthand the extensive work it needs. The truth is, OSF's commitment to building a brand-new hospital in Ottawa is a gift-one that very few communities are lucky enough to receive in today's health care landscape. No one else is stepping up to make this kind of investment, and Ottawa should be thankful for OSF's vision and leadership.

I urge the Board to approve all aspects of OSF's regional plan. These changes reflect forward-thinking health care that meets the needs of our rural communities. The future of rural health care depends on models like this-built on collaboration, expertise and a commitment to quality.

Thank you for your consideration and for the important work you do for the people of Illinois.

Sincerely,



**Julie Ramza, RPh
Streator, IL**