



**OSF<sup>®</sup>**  
**HEALTHCARE**

October 23<sup>rd</sup> 2025

Ms. Debra Savage, Chairwoman  
Mr. John P. Kniery, Administrator  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 West Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: Project 25-013 OSF Saint Elizabeth Medical Center – Ottawa, Discontinuation of ICU and OB

Dear Chairwoman Savage and Mr. Kniery:

As a physician providing newborn care within OSF HealthCare, I am writing to express my strong support for OSF HealthCare's Certificate of Need application to consolidate ICU and inpatient OB services from Ottawa to the hospital facility in Peru.

Our newborn care team currently consists of only four physicians who provide 24-hour call coverage on a weekly rotation. That means always fielding phone calls and being ready to drive to (currently) Ottawa IL to manage an impending delivery or active newborn breathing issue. The role also involves inpatient pediatric care when there are children admitted to the hospital. In addition to this role, I often serve as hospitalist at either Mendota, Ottawa, or Peru IL one to two additional weekends per month. Maintaining active OB units at two hospitals would divide limited physician resources and likely make coverage unsustainable over time. Personally I am not excited about the potential for needing to provide coverage between two hospitals, and such a scenario would likely also impact provider coverage for adult inpatients at multiple other hospitals in the region. A consolidated model of inpatient obstetric services allows us to maintain consistent, high-quality care for mothers and infants while ensuring that physician workloads remain safe and feasible.

In my professional experience, OSF HealthCare has consistently demonstrated a commitment to quality, safety, and compassionate care. The proposed regional model reflects a thoughtful and necessary approach that ensures patients across LaSalle, Bureau, Putnam, and surrounding counties continue to receive exceptional care in the most clinically appropriate and sustainable setting.

I respectfully urge the Review Board to approve OSF HealthCare's CON application. This proposal represents a clinically sound, patient-centered solution that will improve outcomes, maintain sustainable staffing, and ensure high-quality care for families throughout our communities.

Sincerely,

Grant Reed DO  
Family Medicine Physician  
Midtown Health Center, Peru IL