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September 29, 2025

John P. Kniery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities Services and Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761
dph.hfsrb@illinois.gov

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
COMMUNITY REVIEW BOARD

Dear Mr. Kniery,

I serve on Ascension Illinois' Foundation Board and have so for many years. I am also a long-time Elk Grove resident (since 1980). I am writing to you today to extend my support to Ascension Alexian Brothers as they pursue the transition of inpatient obstetrics services to Ascension Saint Alexius Women and Children's Hospital.

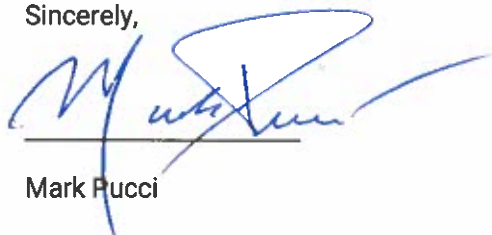
Being on Ascension Illinois's Foundation Board, I have had the opportunity to learn about and understand the evolving dynamics of healthcare in the competitive Chicagoland market. I also understand that health systems and hospitals such as Ascension Alexian Brothers are facing steep challenges that require making decisions that help achieve long-term sustainability and support the talented teams of associates who provide exceptional care to all. They have a responsibility to deliver care to our communities as effectively and expertly as possible, which can be achieved through centers of excellence for designated services, such as labor and delivery.

I am confident that Ascension Saint Alexius Women and Children's Hospital has the expertise and resources needed to be the dedicated labor and delivery center of excellence for the Northwest Suburbs.

I know there are those who live near Ascension Alexian Brothers who don't like this move strictly on the basis that they see it as a lack of convenience. We are fortunate our communities have two Ascension Illinois hospitals in close proximity to one another. This alone allows for accessibility to the expertise of a center of excellence. Additionally, the hospitals share an electronic medical record that provides for seamless access and review of patient medical records. I am also aware that the vast majority of the labor and delivery staff will transition to Ascension Saint Alexius providing continuity of care to patients previously cared for at Ascension Alexian Brothers.

I urge the Board to approve Ascension Alexian Brother's application. Your approval ensures continued access for women across our communities to vital health resources at Ascension Saint Alexius Women and Children's Hospital.

Sincerely,



Mark Pucci