

June 26, 2026

Debra Savage
Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Dear Chair Savage:

I am a nephrologist with experience caring for patients with acute kidney injury, chronic kidney disease, end-stage renal disease, electrolyte disorders, and other complex medical conditions requiring specialized inpatient care. Throughout my practice, I have worked closely with multidisciplinary teams to manage medically fragile patients whose recovery often extends beyond a traditional acute care hospitalization.

I am writing in support of the proposed establishment of Sycamore Specialty Hospital, a long-term acute care hospital to be located at 225 Edward Street, Sycamore, Illinois. The restoration of the former Kindred Hospital Sycamore as a dual-service hospital offering both long-term acute care and inpatient rehabilitation services would strengthen the continuum of care for patients throughout Northern Illinois.

As a nephrologist, I regularly care for patients with multiple chronic medical conditions who require prolonged hospitalization, dialysis, coordinated specialty care, and comprehensive rehabilitation following serious illness. Many of these patients benefit from the specialized services available in a long-term acute care hospital, where they can continue receiving hospital-level treatment while progressing toward recovery. Having these services available closer to home would improve continuity of care, facilitate appropriate patient placement, and provide an important resource for both physicians and patients.

I believe Sycamore Specialty Hospital would become a valuable addition to the regional healthcare system and improve access to specialized care for medically complex patients throughout the surrounding communities.

The information in this letter is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

I fully support the establishment of Sycamore Specialty Hospital.

Sincerely,



[Mohammed I shakaib \(Jun 30, 2026 09:58:48 CDT\)](#)

Dr. Ismail Shakaib, MD
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Dr. Shakaib General Letter of Support - SSH

Final Audit Report

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