

June 29, 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 an emergency medicine physician with experience caring for critically ill and medically complex patients requiring hospitalization and specialized follow-up care. In my career, I have practiced emergency medicine at Northwestern Medicine Kishwaukee Hospital in DeKalb, Illinois, where I gained firsthand knowledge of the healthcare needs of patients throughout the Sycamore and DeKalb communities. That experience provided me with a unique perspective on the importance of ensuring patients have access to the appropriate level of care as they recover from serious illness and injury.

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 address an important healthcare need within the region.

During my years serving patients at Northwestern Medicine Kishwaukee Hospital, I frequently cared for individuals with severe infections, respiratory failure, sepsis, neurologic injuries, traumatic injuries, and other complex medical conditions that required prolonged hospitalization after the acute phase of treatment. Based on my experience caring for patients in this community, I can personally attest to the need for additional long-term acute care resources in the region. Reestablishing an LTACH in Sycamore would improve patient transitions, reduce unnecessary delays in acute care hospitals, and allow patients and their families to receive specialized care closer to home.

I believe Sycamore Specialty Hospital would strengthen the continuum of care for Northern Illinois and become an important resource for physicians caring for medically complex patients.

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,



[Talha Ahmed \(Jun 30, 2026 13:15:10 CDT\)](#)

Dr. Talha Ahmed, MD
Emergency Medicine
(847) 894-7788
1 Kish Hospital Dr
DeKalb IL 60115

Dr. Talha Ahmed - Sycamore Specialty Hospital Support

Final Audit Report

2026-06-30

Created:	2026-06-29
By:	Omar Darawsha (omardarawsha1357@gmail.com)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAS84FQEXG4IGVNiRdQH8N1qy2rxzsnXO2

"Dr. Talha Ahmed - Sycamore Specialty Hospital Support" History

-  Document created by Omar Darawsha (omardarawsha1357@gmail.com)
2026-06-29 - 4:08:22 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to tahmedical@gmail.com for signature
2026-06-29 - 4:08:45 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by tahmedical@gmail.com
2026-06-29 - 4:11:01 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by tahmedical@gmail.com
2026-06-30 - 6:14:49 PM GMT
-  Signer tahmedical@gmail.com entered name at signing as Talha Ahmed
2026-06-30 - 6:15:08 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Talha Ahmed (tahmedical@gmail.com)
Signature Date: 2026-06-30 - 6:15:10 PM GMT - Time Source: server - Signature Appearance Selected: MOBILE_DRAW
-  Agreement completed.
2026-06-30 - 6:15:10 PM GMT