

April 2, 2026

Ms. Debra Savage, Chairwoman
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street Second Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Ms. Savage,

I am writing in strong support of the development of a dedicated Observation Unit at Advocate South Suburban Hospital.

I have been practicing at Advocate South Suburban Hospital since 2006 and currently serve as the President of the Medical Staff, while also practicing as an internist and independent hospitalist. From both a leadership and clinical perspective, I believe a dedicated Observation Unit is essential to supporting efficient patient throughput, appropriate utilization of hospital resources, and timely, high-quality patient care.

A dedicated Observation Unit provides an optimal setting for short-term evaluation and clinical decision-making, allowing patients to receive the appropriate level of care without unnecessary inpatient admission. This model helps reduce congestion in the Emergency Department, improves patient flow across inpatient units, and supports more effective coordination among care teams, ultimately enhancing both operational efficiency and patient experience.

For these reasons, it is my hope that the Board will consider approving the development of a dedicated Observation Unit at Advocate South Suburban Hospital.

Sincerely,



Sandhya Nagubadi, MD
President, Medical Staff
Independent Internist and Hospitalist
Advocate South Suburban Hospital