

ILLINOIS STATE SENATE

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Michael E. Hastings
STATE SENATOR · 19th DISTRICT

April 2, 2026

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

RE: Support for Advocate South Suburban Hospital Dedicated Observation Unit – CON Project #26-010

Dear Chairwoman Savage:

I am writing to express my support for Advocate South Suburban Hospital's Certificate of Need application to establish a dedicated observation unit at its Hazel Crest campus. As a State Senator representing the 19th Senate district since 2013, I see firsthand how critical access to efficient, high quality hospital services is to the health and stability of our residents.

Emergency departments in our region frequently serve as the front door to the health care system for patients with complex needs. The proposed observation unit will enhance Advocate South Suburban Hospital's ability to appropriately manage patients who require short term monitoring and evaluation, while reducing emergency department congestion and avoiding unnecessary inpatient admissions.

This project reflects a thoughtful approach to care delivery. By modernizing existing space and maintaining current licensed bed levels, the hospital is improving care efficiency without expanding inpatient capacity. Patients benefit from reduced wait times, clearer clinical decision making, and a more seamless care experience — all while remaining close to home.

Thank you for your consideration and continued service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "MEH .7/18", written over a horizontal line.

Michael E. Hastings
Senator