

June 29, 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 to express my strong support for the proposed new medical-surgical unit at Advocate Christ Medical Center (ACMC), which will add 22 private medical-surgical beds and significantly enhance the hospital's capacity to provide high-quality patient care. Having proudly served on the ACMC medical staff for more than 13 years, I have witnessed firsthand the organization's unwavering commitment to delivering exceptional, patient-centered care to the communities we serve.

As a board-certified general surgeon with a specialized focus on cancer care, and in my role as Medical Director of the Cancer Institute, I understand the critical importance of timely access to inpatient services and the value of providing patients with a safe, comfortable, and healing environment. The addition of these private beds will strengthen ACMC's ability to meet the growing healthcare needs of our region while further enhancing the patient experience, clinical outcomes, and operational efficiency.

As the only tertiary and quaternary referral center and Level I Trauma Center serving the South Chicagoland area, ACMC is uniquely positioned to care for the most critically ill and medically complex patients. Expanding inpatient capacity will not only alleviate existing demand pressures but also support the integration of modern, state-of-the-art technologies and care delivery models that will further advance quality, safety, and efficiency.

The additional private patient rooms will support enhanced patient privacy, infection prevention efforts, and a more healing-focused environment for patients and their families. I strongly believe this expansion is a vital investment in the future of healthcare delivery and will enable ACMC to continue providing outstanding care to patients and families for generations to come.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration and support of this important initiative.

Sincerely,



Marc Mesleh, MD
Medical Director PSA Integrated Network Cancer Program – South Chicago