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HEALTH FACILITIES
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DR. PAUL JACOBS
STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 118TH DISTRICT

April 14, 2026

Debra Savage, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson St., 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: CON Application of Deaconess Illinois Medical Center

Dear Ms. Savage,

I write to express my strong support for the CON application of Deaconess Illinois Medical Center to provide inpatient obstetric care service at its facility in Marion, Illinois.

Reestablishing access to maternity and neonatal services in Marion is long overdue and Deaconess is to be commended for stepping up to fill the gap. This project will reverse the recent and ongoing collapse of rural maternity services in Southern Illinois and mitigate barriers facing Medicaid recipients currently struggling to find rural providers who accept their coverage. It will provide local access to comprehensive maternity and OB services, including the full range of prenatal, labor and delivery, and perinatal care, in one of the most underserved regions of the state.

I am excited about this project and pleased to share my support with the Review Board.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul C. Jacobs". The signature is written over a horizontal line.

Paul C. Jacobs, OD
State Representative 118th