



John A. Logan College

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

April 10, 2026

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

Re: Support for CON Application of Deaconess IL Medical Center for Inpatient Obstetric Care Service

Dear Chair Savage:

As a community college leader and twenty-four-year nurse educator in Southern Illinois, I am deeply aware of the importance of accessible, high-quality medical services for patients in rural areas. This CON will provide a meaningful benefit to our community and the broader region.

Many of our students are preparing for careers in nursing and allied health fields, completing their clinical training at local healthcare facilities when possible. The addition of a fully functioning maternity unit in Marion, Illinois will greatly expand educational opportunities while strengthening the regional healthcare workforce pipeline.

Equally important, patients and students alike deserve access to safe, local maternity care. The current lack of services forces many to travel significant distances, creating stress and barriers during what should be a supported and well-coordinated experience.

By restoring obstetric services and integrating them into a broader system of care, this project will improve health outcomes and educational opportunities in Southern Illinois.

I respectfully encourage approval of this CON. We desperately need more maternal newborn options in rural Southern Illinois!

Sincerely,

Kristin Yosanovich, DNP, RN, CPPS
Dean of Health Sciences and Director of Nursing

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