

Illinois State Senate

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Kwame Raoul
State Senator · 13th District

14-031

July 2, 2014

Ms. Courtney Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am writing in support of the University of Chicago Medical Center's proposal to expand and relocate its Maternity Center to the third floor of Comer Children's Hospital.

The Maternity Center would consist of nine labor/delivery/recovery rooms, five triage rooms, two operating rooms and five ante-partum rooms.

The project will enable UCMC, a referral center for high-risk pregnancies, to improve care for its complex obstetric population and alleviate critical capacity constraints. UCMC would also become one of the few hospitals to provide state-of-the-art care for high-risk mothers and infants in the same building.

Currently, UCMC provides maternity care in Mitchell Hospital, built in 1983. Since then, the preferences and needs of patients and their families have changed. For instance, the new labor/delivery/recovery rooms would be large enough to accommodate equipment, the many providers often present at the bedside in a teaching hospital and the patients' family members. The current floor plan does not lend itself to being renovated to suit these purposes.

The new Maternity Center will ensure that UCMC continues to provide the most advanced and effective care for mothers and newborns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kwame Raoul".

Kwame Raoul
State Senator, 13th Legislative District