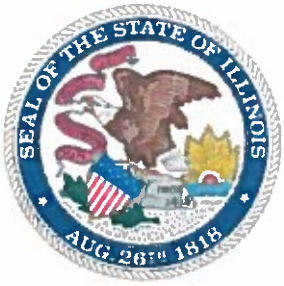
Project No. 17-019

DISTRICT OFFICE
E. J. "ZEKE" GIORGI CENTER
200 S. WYMAN STREET, SUITE 304
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS 61101
815/987-7433 TELEPHONE
815/987-7225 FAX
Email: litesa@slaterepwallace.com

SPRINGFIELD OFFICE
237-E STRATTON BUILDING
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706
217/782-3167 TELEPHONE
217/557-4502 FAX



STATE OF ILLINOIS
LITESA E. WALLACE
STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 67TH DISTRICT

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HEALTH FACILITIES & SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

April 19, 2017

Ms. Kathryn J. Olson, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson, Second Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: Support/or Swedish American Hospital's CON Application to Modernize its Existing Facility and Construct a New Women and Children's Tower, and its Exemption Application to Add a Neo-Natal Intensive Care Unit

Dear Chairwoman Olson:

Please let this letter serve to express my strong support for the Swedish American Health System proposal to construct a Women's and Children's Center, and to update and modernize existing facilities and services. I specifically wish to support the associated CON (Project No. 17-019) and COE (No. E-O 19-17) applications.

Already the largest birthing center in Rockford, and the only area hospital to have received the Health grades' Labor and Delivery Excellence Award, Swedish American plans to construct a dedicated Women's and Children's Center - to continue to provide the highest quality of care for women and infants in the communities I represent. The proposed Center is to include a Neo-natal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), which will permit Swedish American to apply for a Level III Nursery designation, again providing my constituents with direct access to the highest levels of care.

Swedish American Health Systems has served the Rockford community for over a century, and this proposed modernization will ensure that all citizens of Rockford (including on the west and south sides of town) will be cared for with the most up-to-date services and facilities available, including updated Emergency Department services, operating rooms and the Women's and Children's Center.

Swedish American is a vital resource in the Rockford community; I enthusiastically support its plans to modernize its facilities and create a new Women's and Children's Center so that it can continue to provide the citizens of Rockford with the best care possible.

Respectfully,

Litesa E. Wallace
Illinois Representative (67th District)

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