CIRA

CENTRAL ILLINOIS RADIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATES, LTD.

January 22, 2020

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
c/o Courtney Avery, Administrator
525 W Jefferson St, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: Letter of Support for Comprehensive Cancer Center and Proton Therapy

As a member of the medical community and President of Central Illinois Radiological Associates ("CIRA"), Peoria, Illinois, I am writing this letter to express my support of the plans by OSF Saint Francis Medical Center to establish a comprehensive cancer center and offer proton beam therapy to meet the needs of residents of central Illinois. CIRA provides services to 12 facilities within Central Illinois.

Bringing proton beam radiation therapy for cancer treatment to Central Illinois will support health care across the region, and improve overall health outcomes. This next-generation treatment is the most advanced technology available for shrinking cancer cells while avoiding unnecessary radiation to surrounding organs or tissue.

With only 32 proton therapy centers in North America and only one in Illinois, the establishment of proton beam therapy within a comprehensive cancer center in Central Illinois will improve care coordination and alleviate the burden of traveling for patients with cancer and their families.

Furthermore, the treatment provided with this advanced technology is exceptionally fast, and will improve the care that medical professionals can provide to our local community. As a physician, I can assure you that access to consistent, multidisciplinary expertise translates into greater efficiency and cost savings.

I stand with OSF HealthCare in supporting patients with cancer, survivors, and their families. I value the involvement, insight, and good work that OSF HealthCare is doing in cancer care, and urge you to approve this project that will ensure the population in this region has access to the support and care that best fits their needs.

Sincerely,

Kevin M. Fahey, MD
President

KMF/kmk

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