

January 13, 2021

**Statement From
A.J. Wilhelmi, President & CEO
Illinois Health and Hospital Association (IHA)**

Re: Illinois House Speaker Emanuel “Chris” Welch

“The Illinois Health and Hospital Association (IHA) congratulates State Representative Emanuel “Chris” Welch on his historic election as Speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives for the 102nd General Assembly. IHA and the hospital community look forward to working with Speaker Welch on critical healthcare issues, including addressing disparities in health and healthcare, to improve the health and well-being of all Illinoisans.”

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About IHA

The Illinois Health and Hospital Association, with offices in Chicago, Naperville, Springfield and Washington, D.C., advocates for Illinois’ more than 200 hospitals and nearly 40 health systems as they serve their patients and communities. IHA members provide a broad range of services, not just within their walls, but across the continuum of healthcare and in their communities. Reflecting the diversity of the state, IHA members consist of nonprofit, investor-owned and public hospitals in the following categories: community, safety net, rural, critical access, specialty and teaching hospitals, including academic medical centers. For more information, see www.team-iha.org. Like IHA on [Facebook](#). Follow IHA on [Twitter](#).

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