

June 17, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
U.S. Capitol Building, H-222  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Majority Leader  
U.S. Capitol Building, S-230  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
House Republican Leader  
U.S. Capitol Building, H-204  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Senate Democratic Leader  
U.S. Capitol Building, S-221  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McConnell, Leader McCarthy, and Leader Schumer:

The undersigned state, specialty, and national medical associations collectively employ thousands of employees and represent hundreds of thousands of physician members across the country. We greatly appreciate the actions taken by Congress to help physicians on the frontlines of patient care meet the demands of the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes passage of the CARES Act and the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act, which established and provided supplemental funding for the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). These Acts have helped many physician practices and other small businesses, including 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, cover payroll and other expenses during a period of severe loss in revenue caused by the COVID-19 public health emergency. **We join with thousands of other professional and trade associations throughout the country in urging Congress to extend eligibility for the PPP loan program to include Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(6) nonprofit organizations in the final version of the next COVID-19 aid package.**

The CARES Act limited the types of nonprofit organizations that are eligible for a PPP loan to 501(c)(3) organizations. This means that other 501(c) nonprofit organizations, such as 501(c)(6) professional associations, cannot access the same PPP loans—or the favorable features of such loans, such as forgiveness—as other small businesses. However, many 501(c)(6) organizations are small businesses, and the COVID-19 public health emergency has had the same devastating impact on their business operations and ability to retain employees as other small businesses. For example, many medical professional associations generate a significant portion of their revenue by holding conferences and providing essential continuing medical education sessions that help maintain and improve quality patient care. Because the COVID-19 public health emergency has caused these conferences to be cancelled, many professional associations are facing severe financial losses and are in urgent need of financial assistance to remain in business. This could lead to the reduction in other services that benefit patients and are essential to maintaining a strong physician workforce, such as programs that improve the quality and efficiency of physician practices, improve physician satisfaction and wellbeing, or provide a pathway for clinical reentry following a life event such as raising a family.

501(c)(6) nonprofit organizations not only contribute significantly to the economy, they employ staff that are dedicated to improving the quality of the professional membership or trade they represent. We thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

American Medical Association

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American Academy of Otolaryngic Allergy  
American Academy of Cosmetic Surgery  
American Academy of Dermatology Association  
American Academy of Emergency Medicine  
American Academy of Facial Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery  
American Academy of Ophthalmology  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Academy of Sleep Medicine  
American Association for Hand Surgery  
American Association for Physician Leadership  
American Association of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry  
American Association of Clinical Urologists  
American Association of Medical Society Executives  
American Association of Neurological Surgeons  
American College of Emergency Physicians  
American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics  
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
American College of Osteopathic Surgeons  
American College of Physicians  
American College of Radiology  
American College of Rheumatology  
American College of Surgeons  
American Geriatrics Society  
American Medical Group Association  
American Osteopathic Association  
American Psychiatric Association  
American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery  
American Society for Clinical Pathology  
American Society for Dermatologic Surgery Association  
American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery  
American Society for Radiation Oncology  
American Society for Reproductive Medicine  
American Society for Surgery of the Hand  
American Society of Anesthesiologists  
American Society of Breast Surgeons  
American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery  
American Society of Dermatopathology  
American Society of Echocardiography  
American Society of General Surgeons  
American Society of Hematology  
American Society of Neuroradiology  
American Society of Plastic Surgeons  
American Thoracic Society  
American Urological Association  
College of American Pathologists

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International Society for the Advancement of Spine Surgery  
Medical Group Management Association  
Obesity Medicine Association  
Renal Physicians Association  
Society for Vascular Surgery  
Society of American Gastrointestinal Endoscopic Surgeons  
Society of Gynecologic Oncology  
Society of Interventional Radiology  
The Society of Thoracic Surgeons

Medical Association of the State of Alabama  
Arizona Medical Association  
Arkansas Medical Society  
California Medical Association  
Colorado Medical Society  
Connecticut State Medical Society  
Medical Society of Delaware  
Medical Society of the District of Columbia  
Florida Medical Association Inc  
Medical Association of Georgia  
Hawaii Medical Association  
Idaho Medical Association  
Illinois State Medical Society  
Indiana State Medical Association  
Iowa Medical Society  
Kansas Medical Society  
Kentucky Medical Association  
Louisiana State Medical Society  
Maine Medical Association  
Michigan State Medical Society  
Minnesota Medical Association  
Mississippi State Medical Association  
Missouri State Medical Association  
Montana Medical Association  
Nebraska Medical Association  
Nevada State Medical Association  
New Hampshire Medical Society  
Medical Society of New Jersey  
New Mexico Medical Society  
Medical Society of the State of New York  
North Carolina Medical Society  
North Dakota Medical Association  
Ohio State Medical Association  
Oklahoma State Medical Association  
Oregon Medical Association

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Pennsylvania Medical Society  
Rhode Island Medical Society  
South Carolina Medical Association  
South Dakota State Medical Association  
Tennessee Medical Association  
Texas Medical Association  
Utah Medical Association  
Vermont Medical Society  
Medical Society of Virginia  
Washington State Medical Association  
West Virginia State Medical Association  
Wisconsin Medical Society