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April 10, 2020

Office of Governor Michael L. Parson
P.O. Box 720
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Governor Parson:

On behalf of Missouri's physicians and surgeons, we applaud your consistent messaging regarding the importance of social distancing and self-quarantine during the COVID-19 crisis. We are also appreciative of your recent decisions regarding schools, and your efforts to ensure the state's physicians and nurses have access to adequate personal protection equipment (PPE).

It has come to our attention that you may soon consider an executive order that would grant civil immunities to individuals and entities who are treating patients during this critical time. We feel this is a laudable effort and we support your consideration of it.

However, we would encourage you to avoid including in such order any effort that would hold hospitals harmless regarding their PPE usage policies. Over the course of the COVID-19 threat, there have been disagreements between healthcare professionals and hospitals over draconian PPE policies.

It would be unfortunate to eliminate any recourse for frontline physicians and nurses who are treating COVID-19 patients. Especially since they are the providers putting their lives on the line every day to heal Missourians.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Stay safe,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George Hruza MD". The signature is written in a cursive style.

George J. Hruza, MD, MBA, FAAD
President