



COLORADO
MEDICAL SOCIETY

March 13, 2020

Congresswoman Diana DeGette
C/o: Sherie Lou Santos
Health Care Legislative Assistant

By Email: sheriLou.santos@mail.house.gov

RE: Potential Aid for Industries Impacted by Coronavirus

Dear Congresswoman DeGette,

On behalf of thousands of physicians across Colorado, we are writing to offer our expertise to your office, as well as ask for some support as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to spread across Colorado and the nation.

Colorado physicians are on the frontlines of this response and we, as the Colorado Medical Society (CMS), work to support them. We are writing to offer our assistance during this public health emergency to you and your office. Please contact CMS if you wish to work in collaboration to prevent, mitigate and recover from this outbreak. We are just as committed as our physician members to serving the needs of patients in Colorado and stand ready to answer your call.

Moving forward, we need to continue that work and as you consider federal intervention to support the airline, travel and other targeted industries impacted by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, **the Colorado Medical Society urges you to also include associations, nonprofits and other tax-exempt organizations within any federal aid packages or supplemental appropriations measures.** Many medical societies have been and will be harmed by event cancellations and reduced meeting attendance as a result of COVID-19.

CMS is the professional association of over 7,000 physicians and related healthcare professionals. Our mission is to champion health care issues that improve patient care, promote physician professional satisfaction and create healthier communities in Colorado. Many medical societies have already made the difficult, but necessary, decision to cancel their upcoming meetings in order to protect the safety and well-being of front-line clinicians, staff, volunteers, the entire community and the patients they serve. We operate in small margins. The financial impact of these decisions is damaging.

Many associations operate similarly to small businesses and are greatly impacted if employees are forced to take sick leave or are quarantined as a result of COVID-19 interaction. We are aware the Trump Administration and Congress are considering measures for small businesses that may require cash flow assistance amid the outbreak, and **urge that tax-exempt entities be included in any temporary aid designed to stem the economic fallout resulting from COVID-19.**

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bryan Campbell, FAAMSE
CEO, Colorado Medical Society

Adolescent Psychiatric Society

Arapahoe-Douglas-Elbert Medical Society

Colorado Dermatologic Society

Colorado Psychiatric Society

El Paso Medical Society

Mesa County Medical Society

Northern Colorado Medical Society