

AMA Urges Governors to Adopt Emergency Response Protections for Physicians

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<https://www.ama-assn.org/press-center/press-releases/ama-urges-emergency-response-protections-physicians>

Today, the AMA urged the National Governors Association to support removing obstacles to preserving and expanding the physician workforce during the current public health emergency.

CHICAGO - In response to overwhelming circumstances, hazards and burdens that have placed the physician workforce under extreme pressure during COVID-19 pandemic, the American Medical Association (AMA) today urged the National Governors Association (NGA) to support removing obstacles to preserving and expanding the physician workforce during the current public health emergency.

In a letter from AMA CEO and Executive Vice President, James L. Madara MD, to NGA Executive Director Bill McBride, the AMA warned that some federal, state and local directives related to COVID-19 can pose potential liability risks to physicians. This vulnerability remains an obstacle to physicians seeking to fill workforce gaps during the COVID-19 pandemic. To remove this barrier, the AMA asked the Governor members of the NGA to adopt health care emergency response protections to support physicians willing to risk their own health and safety in the care of COVID-19 patients.

The AMA letter noted that many states have already taken action through executive order or state legislation to provide temporary liability protections to physicians and others providing care to COVID-19 patients. The AMA suggested that actions by the governors of Connecticut and New York can serve as models for other states.

To download a PDF copy of the letter, click [here](#).