



PENNSYLVANIA
OSTEOPATHIC
MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION

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April 15, 2020

The Honorable Governor Tom Wolf
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol
Harrisburg, PA, 17055

Re: Liability Immunity for Healthcare Workers

VIA Electronic Mail Transmission Only

Dear Governor Wolf,

On behalf of over 8,400 Osteopathic physicians in the Commonwealth, the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association (POMA) respectfully requests an Executive Order from you to provide liability immunity to physicians and healthcare providers during the COVID-19 crisis.

POMA thanks you, your administrative agencies and the respective Secretaries, for working around the clock to address the many issues facing the state in this public health emergency. POMA recognizes this is not easy work and has supported many of your decisions. In your actions and words, POMA also knows that you recognize and share your support of physicians and healthcare providers who are on the frontlines of this epidemic, making decisions in rapid-fire time, in order to treat patients who have succumbed to this virus.

Osteopathic physicians continue to give it everything they have towards beating this virus in the Commonwealth. But one issue they still have weighing over their heads, as they risk their own lives to treat others, is what liability actions might ensue after the crisis? This is especially acute for those Osteopathic physicians on the border of New York state which has provided immunity to its healthcare workers.

POMA is not asking for any action in perpetuity, but instead, a thin layer of immunity for the Commonwealth's healthcare providers working alongside you and your administrative team, in concert, to defeat this public health war together.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request. If you have any questions on this or any other healthcare issue, please contact POMA staff, Andy Sandusky at asandusky@poma.org.

Sincerely,

Pamela S.N. Goldman, DO
POMA President