



Dear Gov. Parson:

Thank you for your quick and effective actions in taking on the COVID-19 crisis.

Your executive order to remove the requirement that doctors establish a relationship with patients before they can begin diagnosis and treatment through telemedicine is precisely the kind of response we need to combat COVID-19.

Further, your decision to loosen some of our occupational licensing requirements, which allow out-of-state medical providers to offer care in-state, will certainly reduce the burden on our health care system.

Lastly, we appreciate how measured you have been in your response, being careful to respect our civil liberties while also protecting public health.

As our state continues to address this crisis, we believe there is an additional action you could take which would better prepare us for the spread of COVID-19.

We call on you to take emergency measures to suspend our certificate-of-need process. Our certificate-of-need laws arbitrarily limit the number of health care facilities in our state, purchases of major medical equipment, and increases in hospital bed capacity, thereby limiting reducing the number of patients we can treat.

By suspending the CON laws and regulations in RSMO 197.300 to 197.366 and 19 CSR 60-50.010 to 19 CSR 60-50.900, you can ensure Missourians receive the care they need during this crucial moment in our state's history.

Thank you for your swift actions to tackle this crisis. We strongly urge you to consider creating greater accessibility to healthcare by suspending certificate-of-need.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Cady
State Director
Americans for Prosperity – Missouri

Carl Bearden
Chief Executive Officer
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Lindsay Killen
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