

March 14, 2020

The Honorable Greg Abbott
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, Texas 78711-2428

Dear Governor Abbott:

On behalf of the more than 450 hospitals and health systems the Texas Hospital Association represents, I want to thank you for issuing a disaster declaration for all Texas counties in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. With this declaration, public health officials can take the necessary actions to contain further transmission of the virus and ensure health care services and equipment are available to protect Texas patients. Further, Texas hospitals will have the flexibility to respond to patient needs, prioritize infection control and access staffing resources as this public health threat continues to spread.

Texas hospitals are proud to stand on the front lines to combat COVID-19. Ensuring all Texas hospitals have the necessary supplies and equipment is critical to providing the best possible care and defense against any infectious disease, including COVID-19.

We look forward to working with your office as Texas hospitals continue to respond to COVID-19. Thank you again for your leadership to prioritize and protect the health and safety of all Texans. Please feel free to contact THA directly with any thoughts or questions on this matter.

Sincerely,



Ted Shaw
President/CEO
Texas Hospital Association