

1108 Lavaca Street, Suite 700 Austin, Texas 78701 512/465-1000 www.tha.org

March 31, 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 your strong leadership and resolute action to extend Texas' social distancing protocols through April 30. Your Executive Order will keep Texans safer for longer during this public health emergency. Texas hospitals applaud your commitment to minimize non-essential gatherings that threaten the health and safety of our great state. This is what Texas needs to further mitigate the spread of COVID-19, reduce the burden on the health care system and save more Texan lives.

Texas hospitals are proud to stand on the frontlines to combat COVID-19. The faster and more consistently Texans practice social distancing, the safer we all will be and the sooner we can begin to fully reinvigorate our economy.

We appreciate your thoughtful work to protect the health and safety of all Texans, especially the dedicated health care workers on the frontlines of this fight. Texas hospitals are grateful to have you as a partner through this pandemic, and we look forward to working with you as we continue to respond to COVID-19.

Sincerely,

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Ted Shaw President/CEO Texas Hospital Association

