



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF
ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEONS

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June 5, 2020

The Honorable Phil Roe, MD
United States House of Representatives
102 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Lou Correa
United States House of Representatives
1039 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Roe and Correa:

On behalf of the American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS), we thank you for your sponsorship of H.R. 7059, the Coronavirus Provider Protection Act. The AAOS would like to congratulate you on the introduction of this critical legislation and thank you for your commitment to protecting orthopaedic surgeons from the threat of COVID-19-related liability lawsuits.

The threat of litigation is a constant presence for physicians, particularly for those practicing in the field of orthopaedic surgery. This threat has only grown stronger as the nation has faced an unprecedented public health emergency with coronavirus. The targeted medical liability protection provided by H.R. 7059 will help ensure that orthopaedic surgeons and other healthcare providers on the front lines of the pandemic can focus on treating patients without the fear of unwarranted lawsuits.

The AAOS particularly supports provisions of this bipartisan bill which will reduce lawsuits that stem from the workforce shortages, inadequate safety supplies, and changing guidance from federal, state, and local government officials. We also appreciate that this bill appropriately excludes liability protections in situations of gross negligence or willful misconduct ensuring that safeguards for patients are maintained. Thank you again for your leadership in support of orthopaedic surgeons and the patients they serve during this particularly challenging time.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Bosco, III, MD, FAAOS

President
American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons

cc: Daniel K. Guy, MD, FAAOS, AAOS First Vice-President
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