



May 1st, 2020

The Honorable Mike DeWine Governor, State of Ohio 77 S. High St. 30th Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Governor DeWine,

On behalf of the nearly 3,000 fellows of the American College of Surgeons who practice in Ohio, I am writing today to offer our support for your recently unveiled *Responsible RestartOhio* plan. Ohio's surgeons appreciate the strong leadership that you and your administration have shown during this difficult time for our state.

I know that you and your team have had to make some very tough decisions over the past two months. One of the most consequential for our members was the March 17th order halting non-essential medical procedures. I'm proud of Ohio's surgeons for doing their part by postponing many procedures, saving and donating PPE to other practice areas, and working in other areas of hospitals to support COVID-19 patient care.

I have no doubt that the steps you and Dr. Acton have taken during this time have saved many lives. Further, you and your administration have laid out a thoughtful and commonsense plan for Ohio's healthcare providers to get back to work taking care of patients.

Please know that the Ohio Chapter of the American College of Surgeons supports the excellent work that you, Dr. Acton and others in your administration are doing to lead our state.

Thank you for your time and do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

John J. Como, MD, MPH, FACS, FCCM President Ohio Chapter, American College of Surgeons

Cc: Dr. Amy Acton, Director, Ohio Department of Health