



JAMES L. MADARA, MD  
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, CEO

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July 7, 2020

The Honorable Tate Reeves  
Governor  
State of Mississippi  
550 High Street  
Jackson, MS 39201

Re: **Mississippi Senate Bill 3049 – support**

Dear Governor Reeves:

On behalf of the American Medical Association (AMA) and our physician and medical student members, I write to **strongly encourage you to sign Senate Bill 3049** (S.B. 3049), the “Mississippi Back-to-Business Liability Assurance and Health Care Emergency Response Liability Protection Act,” which provides much needed civil immunity protections to physicians and other health care professionals in Mississippi.

Across the country, the coronavirus has created unprecedented challenges to individuals, families, communities and many sectors of the economy, including physicians. Since the very start of the COVID-19 pandemic, physicians have served on the frontline caring for patients, often under extreme pressure and overwhelming circumstances while putting their own health and safety at risk. Unfortunately, one of the strains facing physicians during these unprecedented times is their vulnerability to future liability claims despite their best efforts to provide high quality patient care in high-pressure situations and while adhering to quickly changing federal, state and local policy guidance as well as directives necessary to protect valuable health care resources and mitigate the spread of COVID-19. We encourage you to sign S.B. 3049, which provides much needed protections for Mississippi physicians and other health care professionals.

Over the past few months, at least a dozen states have extended civil immunity protections to physicians and other health care professionals in response to COVID-19. With your signature on S.B. 3049, Mississippi will join these states and become a model for other states moving forward.

Thank you in advance for your strong support of the physician community. If you have any questions, please contact Kimberly Horvath, JD, Senior Legislative Attorney, AMA Advocacy Resource Center, at [kimberly.horvath@ama-assn.org](mailto:kimberly.horvath@ama-assn.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James L. Madara". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

James L. Madara, MD

cc: Claude Brunson, MD