

March 30, 2020

President Donald J. Trump  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Vice President Michael Richard Pence  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump and Vice President Pence:

As organizations representing health care providers, public health professionals, patients, scientists and advocates, we urge you to maintain public health guided social distancing efforts nationwide to flatten the curve of COVID-19 infections until medical evidence indicates that it is safe to relax them and thank you for extending the current guidelines to April 30. We strongly emphasize the need for economic, nutritional and educational support for workers, small businesses, families and children who are facing steep sacrifices as a result of this pandemic.

Lifting restrictions on gathering and travel by an arbitrary date endangers the health of Americans and control of this public health crisis. Easing social distancing measures while COVID-19 transmissions continue to climb will lead to faster spread of disease, overwhelm health care settings that continue to lack essential medical equipment and supplies [including Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)], and result in deaths that could have been prevented.

The nation needs your leadership to guide a uniform, nationwide protection plan. While most governors have put in place robust social distancing policies, statewide efforts alone will not be sufficient to control this public health crisis. A strong nationwide plan that supports and enforces social distancing should remain in place until public health and medical experts indicate it can safely be lifted. Lifting restrictions sooner will gravely jeopardize the health of all Americans and extend the harmful economic impacts of the pandemic.

Respectfully submitted by the other signed organizations,

Infectious Diseases Society of America  
HIV Medicine Association  
AIDS Alabama  
AIDS Foundation of Chicago  
AIDS Foundation of Chicago  
American Academy of HIV Medicine  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American College of Preventive Medicine  
American Diabetes Association  
American Lung Association  
American Osteopathic Association  
American Public Health Association

American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy  
American Society for Microbiology  
American Society for Reproductive Medicine  
American Society of Nephrology  
American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene  
American Statistical Association  
American Thoracic Society  
Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology  
Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care  
Association of Public Health Laboratories  
Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health  
Big Cities Health Coalition  
Black AIDS Institute  
CAEAR Coalition  
Cascade AIDS Project  
Community Education Group  
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists  
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation  
ECU Adult Specialty Care  
Endocrine Society  
GLMA: Health Professionals Advancing LGBTQ Equality  
HealthHIV  
Heartland Alliance  
Hepatitis Education Project  
HIV + Aging Research Project--Palm Springs  
Hyacinth AIDS Foundation  
International Foundation for Alternative Research in AIDS  
March of Dimes  
Medical Library Association  
National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors  
National Coalition for LGBT Health  
National Coalition of STD Directors  
National Network of Public Health Institutes  
National Working Positive Coalition  
North Carolina AIDS Action Network  
Prevention Access Campaign  
Rhode Island Public Health Institute  
Safe States Alliance  
Society for Public Health Education

Society of Critical Care Medicine

The AIDS Institute

The Center for HIV Law and Policy

The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America

The Well Project

Treatment Action Group

Trust for America's Health