



Missouri College of Emergency Physicians

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COVID Liability Reform

Emergency physicians have been on the front line of the COVID-19 pandemic since the onset, and have faced challenges most have never experienced in their careers. The catastrophic supply shortages for PPE, widespread chaos and panic, stockpiling by individuals to profit from the PPE shortages, and the many unknowns of this new disease created conditions that most people would run from. However, healthcare workers didn't run away, they ran to the patients in need even with the lack of equipment to keep themselves safe.

Now their future is threatened by potential lawsuits, and this doesn't impact just the medical community, it is a threat to all those who stepped up to keep supplies on store shelves, supplies in transit to those in need, and goods in production. Now is the time to thank these individuals and businesses by passing the COVID Liability Reform legislation.

There isn't a family in Missouri that hasn't been impacted by the pandemic through illness, death or lost jobs, and many families have seen all three of these devastating situations. Along the way, we have seen a large number of emergency use authorizations implemented in an attempt to provide relief to those suffering from COVID and to find a vaccine to prevent the disease from continuing to overwhelm our lives. Additionally, Missouri saw more than 500 waivers of various state standards implemented to protect and provide care to our citizens. While many were working to develop solutions, others were working to promote themselves by placing advertisements on social media and the Internet in an effort to find people to take advantage of the front line workers through opportunistic lawsuits.

This act wouldn't protect the bad actors who should not be protected, it provides a legal safe harbor that will protect those that deserve it, enable more businesses to confidently reopen, and provide strong economic recovery and jobs for Missouri.

The world has come together to battle the COVID-19 pandemic and many states have already passed, or have legislation pending, to protect those on the front lines. Let's add Missouri to the list of those that are working to protect those that protected us.

**Protect Missouri and its future by voting yes on
Senate Bill 51.**

Let's get Missouri back to business and protect those who ran to help, instead of those who waited behind the scenes to take advantage of a bad situation.

Our state needs a yes from you!