Dear Dr. NAME,

The Arkansas Medical Society is the ONE physician-formed and physician-led organization strong enough to protect how we practice medicine, how we are reimbursed, and how we are represented at the Capitol. Through our combined strength, we preserve access to high quality, affordable healthcare and tackle the tough issues like payment reform, physician employment contracts, scope of practice, tort reform and public health concerns.

The Arkansas Medical Society has been working closely with the Arkansas Department of Health and other government and healthcare leaders to serve physicians during the COVID-19 pandemic. **We have worked diligently to help physicians with the issues that they were facing, including:**

* **Worked with the governor to secure almost one million pieces of PPE for member AND non-member clinics around the state. AMS has never taken on this type of project before, but we knew it was critical for you to get the supplies you needed.**
* **Reached out to insurance carriers, Medicaid, and Medicare to encourage them to pay for telephone-only visits the same as in-office visits. This one act has helped many of us keep our practices open.**
* **Successfully advocated for the governor to issue an executive order providing liability protections for physicians during the emergency.**
* **Sent daily COVID-19 updates and frequently updated the AMS COVID-19 resource web page to give us the tools we need to manage our staff and patients.**

These COVID-19 actions were done on behalf of members and non-members, which was the right thing to do. However, there are additional benefits AMS members can access, including the Society’s personal, practical support for their practice, physician-centered insurance protection and timely news updates that affect you and your practice. From help with medical records, insurance, and collections, to a host of other topics that come up in the day-today managing of a medical practice; our number one goal is to represent and support our members.

Membership is critical to AMS’s success and to the future of our profession, and your colleagues who make the Arkansas Medical Society such a strong advocate need your input and your support. For the cost of a cup of coffee a day, you can join me as an AMS member. To sign up, visit [ARKMED.org/join-renew](http://www.arkmed.org/membership/join-renew) or contact the AMS staff at 501-224-8967 to help start your membership.

While COVID-19 may have slowed things down, the advocacy work that AMS does on our behalf continues, arguably stronger than ever. Your membership and involvement are vital in our success.

Sincerely,

Your Name