



September 29, 2020

Chancellor Randy Gardner
Ohio Department of Higher Education
25 South Front Street
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chancellor Gardner,

Thank you for all of your efforts to protect the health and well-being of students and academic institutions in our state amidst the on-going COVID-19 public health emergency. During these uncertain circumstances and as schools re-open across Ohio, we are reminded the value of academic medical education.

With the Ohio state legislature's recent release of CARES Act funding, and with a remaining balance over \$1.059 billion, we respectfully urge you and Governor DeWine allocate additional funding for our State's two publicly owned academic medical institutions.

Columbus is home to the State's flagship medical center at The Ohio State University. While Toledo boasts the University of Toledo Medical Center, the sole public teaching and research hospital in the northwest quadrant of Ohio. These teaching hospitals hold the important responsibility of training our next generation of healthcare professionals to meet our region's medical needs.

Both OSU and UPMC doctors and students have a legacy of caring for our most vulnerable families and communities, refusing no patient. There is no better time to invest federal resources to strengthen these vital institutions. Our teaching hospitals are in desperate need of funding to stabilize revenue losses and reinvest in public medical academia.

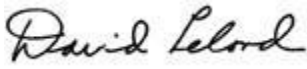
Support from the DeWine Administration will be crucial to return these institutions, who have also faced budget cuts over the years, to full capacity. By fully funding our teaching hospitals, they will be better suited to carry out their vital duties, including the discovery of life-saving vaccines, advancement of medical technology, and improving the delivery of care and better health outcomes for patients in our state. The Association of American Medical Colleges estimates the total economic impact of medical schools across Ohio to be \$21.90 billion.

Reinvesting in our state owned academic medical campuses will not only protect the future of these institutions but will also help protect the health and well-being of Ohioans. We, along with our devoted medical students and practitioners, would be grateful for your investment. History will thank you for your leadership and action on such a critical issue. Thank you for your attention to this important matter and we stand ready to assist.

Sincerely,

MARCY KAPTUR	TERESA FEDOR	PAULA HICKS-HUDSON	LISA SOBECKI	MICHAEL SHEEHY
Member of Congress	State Senator	State Representative	State Representative	State Representative

JOYCE BEATTY	HEARCEL CRAIG	TINA MAHARATH	KRISTIN BOGGS	MARY LIGHTBODY
Member of Congress	State Senator	State Senator	State Representative	State Representative



DAVID LELAND
State Representative



ALLISON RUSSO
State Representative



ERICA CRAWLEY
State Representative