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November 16, 2020

The Honorable Kim Reynolds  
Governor of the State of Iowa

On behalf of the Iowa Academy of Family Physicians, representing family physicians across the state, we write asking for increased efforts in our state's response to COVID-19.

The effects of COVID-19 have been felt across every facet of our state. We acknowledge and appreciate the energy your team has put into management during the crisis thus far. As family physicians, we have been tirelessly working at the bedside and in our communities to lead locally.

Over the past weeks, we have seen a surge in our state like none before. This worsened outbreak is straining our hospitals and clinics, testing our healthcare workers and taking the lives of beloved family members and neighbors. Simply put, we cannot continue along our current path.

Evidence-based and proven methods for slowing down this spread are necessary. Our state government needs to put stronger action behind its current encouragement to restrict gathering sizes and consistently wear masks. As we mandated the "Greatest Generation" to ration during World War II for the higher good of the country, now we must move to mandate life-saving measures on the behalf of them and all Iowans.

For our patients and our colleagues, we implore you to face this unprecedented challenge with bold, necessary action.

Sincerely,

Lonny Miller, MD, President

Laura Bowshier, MD, President-Elect