July 15, 2020

The Honorable Mike Pence The White House Office of the Vice President 1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW Washington, DC 20500

Dear Vice President Pence:

During a national public health emergency, it is vital that we lead with science and with the best data available. Our continued response to and successful recovery from the COVID-19 crisis depends on adherence to sound scientific and public health guidance from the experts, including Dr. Anthony Fauci, who have made the health and safety of the public the top priority.

As organizations representing thousands of researchers, public health professionals, health care providers and others serving in scientific and health care professional fields, we object to any attempt to cast doubt on science and sow mistrust for public health expertise, and to spread misinformation during this challenging time for all Americans. Such efforts not only put the health of our population in greater peril, but also undermine the work underway to move our country beyond the pandemic and return to normalcy.

SARS-CoV-2 is a novel virus and COVID-19 is a new condition with which we have no prior experience. As is the case with any new pathogen or disease, we are learning in real time. Public health and medicine are inherently dynamic fields that adapt as the science evolves. We have embarked on an unprecedented global effort to develop medical countermeasures and refine public health guidance, and as this work uncovers new knowledge, recommendations can and will change. By heeding the recommendations of those who are on the front lines of progress to combat this virus, we have the best chance at a successful outcome.

Sincerely, AcademyHealth African American Health Alliance AIDS Action Baltimore AIDS Alabama AIDS Foundation Chicago AIDS United American Academy of HIV Medicine American Association for Anatomy American Association for Dental Research American Association for Respiratory Care American Association for the Advancement of Science American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy American Association of Immunologists American Association of Physics Teachers American College of Nuclear Medicine (ACNM) American Crystallographic Association American Institute of Biological Sciences American Physiological Society American Public Health Association American Society for Cell Biology American Society for Clinical Pathology American Society for Gravitational and Space Research American Society for Investigative Pathology American Society for Microbiology American Society for Reproductive Medicine American Society for Virology American Society of Hematology American Society of Pediatric Nephrology American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene American Sociological Association American Statistical Association American Thoracic Society Association for Psychological Science

Association of American Cancer Institutes Association of Nurses in AIDS Care Association of Public Health Laboratories Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health AVAC Bauch S. Blumberg Institute **Big Cities Health Coalition Biophysical Society Black AIDS Institute** Cascade AIDS Project Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation Coalition for the Life Sciences Consortium of Universities for Global Health **Council of Scientific Society Presidents** Cure HHT **Endocrine Society Entomological Society of America Genetics Society of America** HealthHIV Hepatitis B Foundation **HIV Medicine Association** Infectious Diseases Society of America Institute for Systems Biology Institute of Food Technologists Institute of Mathematical Statistics International Association of Providers of AIDS Care International Society for Stem Cell Research

IRMA - International Rectal Microbicide Advocates Jeffrey Modell Foundation Latinos Salud LUNGevity Foundation NASTAD National Association of County and City Health Officials National Coalition for LGBT Health Natural Science Collections Alliance **NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice** North American Vascular Biology Organization North Carolina AIDS Action Network Positive Women's Network-USA Prevention Institute Safe States Alliance San Francisco AIDS Foundation Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Honor Society Society of General Internal Medicine Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists (SIDP) Society of Toxicology STChealth LLC The Histochemical Society The Well Project **Treatment Action Group** Trust for America's Health Vaccinate Your Family Washington State Department of Health WVU Health Sciences Center