



**CALIFORNIA
HOSPITAL
ASSOCIATION**

*Providing Leadership in
Health Policy and Advocacy*

March 24, 2020

Denise Duncan, RN
President
UNAC/UHCP
955 Overland Ct, Ste. 150
San Dimas, CA 91773-1718

Dear Ms. Duncan:

We received your letter and appreciate you reaching out to the Association to discuss your concerns. We are in an unprecedented moment in health care as we prepare to care for millions of Californians who will be acutely ill due to the COVID-19 virus.

Hospitals are about people taking care of people. And there is nothing more important than the safety of patients and the health care workers who care for them. We appreciate the partnership with United Nurses Associations of California/Union of Health Care Professionals (UNAC/UHCP) as we work together to ensure we use personal protective equipment appropriately as we face unprecedented demand for all resources. To that end, the California Hospital Association supports:

- Canceling all but essential elective surgeries in California. This will allow us all to conserve resources and equipment and help ensure that those nurses who are in direct contact with COVID positive patients have the protection they need.
- Conveying to all of our members the importance of communication and transparency with health care workers about the availability of personal protective equipment, especially as we know demand is great and supply is short.

As we work together with the Governor and his team to build capacity and prepare for the anticipated surge in patients, we welcome any opportunity to partner with UNAC/UHCP to advocate for worker and patient safety. This demonstrated partnership will continue to strengthen our response to this incredibly difficult health care crisis.

We appreciate your productive approach and look forward to continuing to work with you. By sticking together, we will all find our way through this challenging time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carmela Coyle".

Carmela Coyle
President & CEO

cc: Hon. Toni G. Atkins, Senate President Pro Tempore, California State Senate
Hon. Anthony Rendon, Speaker, California State Assembly
Anthony Williams, Legislative Secretary, Office of Governor Gavin Newsom