



May 27, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

**RE: Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act**

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Minority Leader McCarthy:

On behalf of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS), the professional organization that represents more than 9,000 oral and maxillofacial surgeons (OMSs) in the United States, we strongly urge the House to take up and pass as quickly as possible the Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act (HR 6886), which would provide a number of necessary reforms to the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). These reforms would include extension of the loan forgiveness period from eight to 24 weeks, extension of the employee rehiring deadline to align with enhanced unemployment insurance benefits, elimination of restrictions limiting non-payroll expenses to 25 percent of loan proceeds, removal of restrictions that limit loan terms to two years and full access to payroll tax deferment for businesses that take PPP loans.

PPP loans have been a critical lifeline for many OMS practices during this time of financial uncertainty and afforded them the ability to retain or rehire their personnel before their practices operate at full capacity. With states just now allowing OMS offices to perform non-emergent procedures, many OMS offices will be unable to take full advantage of loan forgiveness offered through the PPP without an extension beyond the eight-week period for expenses incurred as well as an extension of the rehire period as provided by HR 6886.

We respectfully request you to consider amending the bill to include a provision provided in S 3833, the Paycheck Protection Program Extension Act, which would permit non-payroll PPP funds to be used for expenses related to personal protective equipment (PPE) and compliance with other federally regulated health and safety measures.

OMSs are the surgical specialists of dentistry who have played a crucial role during the COVID-19 pandemic in treating patients with dental emergencies in private facilities, keeping them away from hospital emergency rooms. OMSs across the country are beginning to reopen their practices after closing completely or limiting their practice to emergency-only dental care during the pandemic. To protect patients, their staff and themselves from the spread of COVID-19, OMSs are implementing enhanced infection control safeguards as called for in the updated Interim Infection Prevention and

Control Guidance for Dental Settings During the COVID-19 Response<sup>1</sup>. Furthermore, many OMS procedures generate aerosols – which can increase the risk of virus transmission – making additional infection control measures and PPE essential. The cost of these health and safety efforts will have a considerable economic impact on their businesses. By providing flexibility in how PPP loan proceeds are utilized, your legislation will help OMSs mitigate the increased cost of PPE required to safely return to providing care to patients while also protecting themselves and employees.

We appreciate Congress' efforts to swiftly implement the PPP program to provide critical assistance to small businesses at the onset of the pandemic; however, passage of HR 6886 is necessary to refine the program so it truly works for small businesses – such as OMS practices – as we move into the recovery and reopening phase.

Please let us know if we can help your efforts by contacting Jeanne Tuerk, manager of government affairs, at 800-822-6637, ext. 4321, or [jtuerk@aaoms.org](mailto:jtuerk@aaoms.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Victor L. Nannini DDS FACS". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Victor L. Nannini, DDS, FACS  
AAOMS President

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<sup>1</sup> [CDC Interim Infection Prevention and Control Guidance for Dental Settings During the COVID-19 Response](#), May 19, 2020