



AMERICAN
COLLEGE OF
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April 29, 2019

On behalf of the more than 5,000 members of the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons, I write to express the College's concern about the removal of registration fee caps on .org domains. The American College of Surgeons serves as the home to osteopathic surgeons and their patients.

Removing the caps would create a financial hardship at a time when many nonprofit associations, individual member associations as well as tax-exempt charities face dues and donorship dollar shortfalls. Our website is a crucial part of interacting with our members and other associations.

In order to be good financial stewards of our members' dues, we operate on a very tight budget with most of our funds going toward providing education to allow our members to give quality care to their patients. As such, any deviation from known costs start to hinder programming. The proposed increase to \$6,250 per quarter (\$25,000 per year) would be a budgetary millstone that would impact our budget and our mission. The .org domain allows a nonprofit to be instantly recognized and trusted in its marketing and advocacy efforts.

For a small organization of our size, the additional cost to maintain our domain name would be a sizable hit to our bottom line. The current caps offer associations like ours a chance to promote our mission without needing sizeable funds to pay an unrealistic fee for a domain.

Sincerely,

Todd A. Nickloes, D.O., FACOS, FACS
President
American College of Osteopathic Surgeons