Frequently Asked Questions- How to Write a Legislator

If you’ve never written a letter to a legislator before, please follow the example provided below. Make sure to personalize your letter. If you are writing about the possible 2024 Medicaid rate increase, your legislator will need to know how this budgetary increase will provide medically necessary services for South Carolinians and is a reasonable request of state funding for Medicaid.

To the Honorable (Senator or Representative) \_\_\_\_\_\_,

I am writing to you as a *Speech-Language Pathologist* with the hopes that I can gain your support for increased funding for the SC Department of Health and Human Services, specifically, the provider rate increases for Speech, Occupational, and Physical Therapy services. Patients with Medicaid deserve our very best, and some practices are choosing to go out of network with Medicaid due to financial unsustainability from over 14 years of reimbursement rate cuts while facing steady inflation.

*(Insert a personalized story about how a waitlist affected a patient, or a practice had to go out of network with Medicaid, or a practice faced/is facing financial hardship as a Medicaid provider; \_\_\_\_)*

I would greatly appreciate your support of an increase in SC DHHS funding to keep the speech, occupational, and physical therapy practices open for South Carolinians with Medicaid. Thank you for your service to South Carolina, and your consideration.

Sincerely,

(Your name, credentials, practice information if you are comfortable sharing)