(Date)

Honorable

Address

City, state

Good Day, Senator or Representative (Last name)

I am writing on behalf of (insert organization name), which (information about your mission and company) and employs (insert employee totals) dedicated staff within your district. Local seniors and the providers caring for them need your help and support for $446 Million in American Rescue Plan funding to be allocated directly to long-term care providers.

Chose a bullet or two

* Share information about yourself and your company
  + your profession,
  + your role,
  + how you’ve responded to and been affected by COVID in your community,
  + how you love caring for the seniors in your facility,
* Your connection to the long-term care sector-
  + A parent or grandparent receiving or received care?
  + A friend who works in healthcare
* How you would feel if the work you did every day was vilified by the press
  + Supporting the employers and facilities caring for our most vulnerable.
  + We should be supporting our healthcare heroes

For over a year, long-term care providers have faced exponential increases in costs of personal protective equipment, ongoing testing of staff and residents, additional staffing and overtime, and higher wage expense to account for hazard pay and more direct care as a result of limitations on visitation and activities.

Funding from Act 24 helped bridge the short term gap, and went a long way to offset costs accrued in the initial months of the pandemic. Since that time, extraordinary costs continue to outpace our best budget estimates from last year, and no additional federal assistance for our sector has been allocated. We are requesting:

* $396 Million for nursing facilities allocated using the same methodology as Act 24 of 2020
* $50 Million for personal care homes and assisted living residences allocated using the same methodology as Act 24 of 2020.

These amounts are based on analysis of expected actual pandemic related costs for the remainder of 2021. New information about preventing the spread of COVID-19 continues to be released as infection prevention scientists refine their methodologies and investigations. We don’t know what new costs we could face tomorrow as we care for and protect our residents and staff.

As a society, we hope that our good deeds will be recognized and supported when we are most in need. For those in long term care, vaccines haven’t meant the end of the pandemic. Our commonwealth’s providers are facing extraordinary circumstances as they care for our parents and grandparents, and we desperately need financial support.

Please consider penning a letter of support to your leadership expressing our funding hardships and the need for funding. Thank you for your ongoing support of senior service providers during their trying times. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this issue, please contact me.

Sincerely,

(name, title, organization)

PARCR Legislative 20-LG06 Template Letter