



Sharing your story: Tips for writing to lawmakers.

Legislators need to hear from you to know who you are and what is important to you and your family. Contacting a legislator on an issue once is not enough. They need to hear from you and others in their district multiple times throughout the session and throughout the year if you want them to make your family's needs a priority. All families should be communicating with their legislators frequently in person and by email, phone and snail mail.

SAMPLE INFORMATION TO INCLUDE IN EMAILS/LETTERS TO LEGISLATORS:

Name

Street Address, Town

Issue you are writing about.

The name and age of your loved one with I/DD.

What funding/supports if any, do you currently have? What do those supports mean to your loved one with I/DD and your family?

How would losing those supports impact your family?

What struggles have you face in helping your loved one with I/DD in living a full life? Obtaining employment? Training? Residential supports? Transportation? Socialization? Other issues?

Are you on a DDS waiting list for supports?

How does not having the supports you need impact your family?

What are your concerns/fears for the future for your loved one with I/DD?

Are there any bills you support that would help your loved on or family? How?

Are there any bills that would harm your loved on or family? How?

What can legislators do to help your family?