



ADVOCACY TIPS: SAMPLE LETTER TO YOUR LEGISLATOR

The Honorable John/Jane Doe
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Funding Cuts to Programs Critical to Bleeding Disorders

Dear Representative Doe:

My name is Kimberly Haugstad and I live at 123 Brown Road in Any City USA. I am in strong opposition to the proposed cuts in funding to the departments and agencies that administer hemophilia programs. The House Committee on Appropriations has recently proposed the following cuts:

- \$210 million cut to the Title V Maternal & Child Health Block Grant. This grant supports the National Hemophilia Program that provides funding for Hemophilia Treatment Centers, (HTC.)
- \$755 million cut to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which oversees hemophilia surveillance activities,
- \$1 billion cut to the National Institutes of Health, which conducts research on hemophilia.

Cuts this deep will devastate the care I receive for my son's bleeding disorder. He has hemophilia and relies on the Hemophilia Treatment Center at the Downtown Memorial Hospital to provide guidance and expertise in helping me and my family to manage my son's the bleeding disorder.

The National Hemophilia Program provides funding for Hemophilia Treatment Centers which are extremely vital health care providers for individuals with bleeding disorders. These centers provide the needed and specialized care and training to help me live a productive life. Without the care he receives at my HTC my son would be at a much greater risk of developing a lifetime of disability.

We also need the research and surveillance activities of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to continue. Without data collection our nation's doctors and scientists cannot continue the invaluable research they conduct to find innovative products and treatments for bleedings disorders.

These cuts are counterproductive to ensuring a healthy society where everyone, no matter their health condition has full access to health services and treatments. Cutting funding to these programs and agencies will ultimately cost myself and the nation more in the future.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Haugstad
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