



717 K Street #501 • Sacramento, CA 95814 • www.hemophiliaca.org

Writing Your Legislator*

A letter to your elected representative is a powerful tool. It helps policymakers understand the human impact of the laws they create.

A good letter tells a story of how a particular piece of legislation affects you. It includes personal anecdotes as well as facts about the law. It shows that you understand the issue, and want, in turn, to make your lawmaker understand how deeply this would affect you.

When writing a letter, a few things to keep in mind:

- Be clear and concise. Try to keep the letter to one page.
- Use personal information (your bleeding disorder; your medical costs, etc.)
- Include photos
- Convey urgency

Below is a sample email which you can use as a template to write to your State Senator or Assemblymember for Hemophilia Council of California's Legislative Day. This letter highlights the areas of funding in the State budget that would have the biggest effect on the bleeding disorders community. Be sure to include your address at the end so they can confirm you are a constituent, as some offices will only "count" and/or respond to letters from constituents.

RE: Maintaining eligibility and benefits for the CCS and GHPP programs

Dear **(Assembly Member/Senator) (Last name)**:

My name is **(your first and last name)** and I am **a(n) (HTC patient / family member / service provider / advocate / community member)** who resides in your district.

The Genetically Handicapped Persons Program (GHPP) and California Children's Services (CCS) provide health care coverage to people with hemophilia and other rare bleeding disorders in California. Coverage includes factor, ancillary medical supplies, physical therapy, and needed medical procedures. These programs are vital to allow people with bleeding disorders to remain healthy and active, to attend school, and to be part of the workforce in California.

I support preserving funding for GHPP and CCS because **(State why you support preserving funding for GHPP (Genetically Handicapped Persons Program) and CCS (California**

*adapted from an article from the National Hemophilia Foundation

Children's Services) here. Choose up to three of the strongest points that support your position and state them clearly.)

(Include a personal story. Tell your representative why the issue of preserving access to treatment and medications such as factor or Hemlibra is important to you and how it affects you, your family member and your community.)

Thank you for protecting GHPP and CCS in this year's State Budget. I would really like your continued support for these programs that support our community. We hope you will continue to protect these important programs into the future.

Sincerely,

Print your name
Street address
City, State, Zip code