

Sample Letter to a Legislator

It is very important that your legislator receive a personalized letter from you. The more personal it is, the more impact it will have. Use the following as a loose guide, but be sure to “make it your own.” Feel free to edit/shorten as needed, and insert your personal stories.

[Insert date]

The Honorable Jane Doe
12345 Legislator Lane
Anywhere, MN 12345

Dear Senator/Representative Doe,

I am a constituent in your district [if applicable]. I am also a friend/donor/business partner/family member of a person supported by Dakota Communities. Dakota Communities is a nonprofit organization providing residential and in-home services to people with disabilities throughout the seven-county metro area.

I know that you are charged with making big decisions about how to balance the budget. **I am writing to ask you to [include your ask here, such as ‘assure that no more cuts are made to disability services’].**

The Governor’s current budget proposal includes a 2.5% proposed rate cut of \$32.3 million to providers of services to people with disabilities. This would mean a \$425,000 cut annually to Dakota Communities.

Fairness means the legislature has to spread cuts across all areas of government. **The proposed cuts would disproportionately affect our most vulnerable citizens and their modestly-paid caregivers.**

This issue is important to me because:

[Insert personal story here that relates to your work, family, and/or beliefs about supporting people with disabilities and the services they receive. Mention cuts will restrict [person name]’s opportunities to get out of [his/her] home and into the community.]

Please help ensure that we don’t balance the state’s budget at the expense of our most vulnerable citizens and the dedicated employees who support them.

Thank you for your consideration and for the hard work you are doing for Minnesota. Please send a reply to my home to let me know if you will support this important issue.

Sincerely,

Your name
home address
phone number
and email address

***Include photo if you have one.**