Dear Representative XX/Senator XX:

My name is (First and last name) and I work for (Community Name) located in (City name). I’m writing you today to ask for your help in supporting Washington’s low-income seniors.

As an assisted living provider we help seniors in our community by assisting with activities of daily living, personal care, medication management, memory support while also offering opportunities for social engagement all while living in a home-like setting. It is our mission to care for all seniors we serve, including individuals who rely on Medicaid to access these important services. As with most other Medicaid providers around the state, it is a daily struggle for our community to survive on the current Medicaid rates, which have remained relatively flat for the past 10 years and average approximately $78 per day.

Last session the legislature recognized the challenges we face and passed HB2515 which implemented a new data-driven methodology for determining assisted living Medicaid rates. It is now up to the legislature to fund the methodology. It is imperative the new methodology is funded at a significant level this session so we can continue to provide care and service to support low-income seniors in our community. Without meaningful increase, we will need to further restrict low income senior access or risk closing our doors altogether.

Please preserve low income access to assisted living services and support funding for the clients we serve.

When your schedule allows, I invite you to visit our community so you can see first-hand the vital role we play in our states long-term care continuum. I’m also happy to help inform or answer any questions you have.

I appreciate all the work you do for the residents in your district.

Thank you.