

SAMPLE FORM LETTER FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS

It would be impossible to provide one letter that fits all. However, provided you personalize the letter below, you may elect to use the basic format that follows:

THIS SAMPLE LETTER IS FOR ILLUSTRATION PURPOSES ONLY! PLEASE DO NOT COPY VERBATIM!

Insert Return Address

Your Name
Address
City, State, Zip Code
Phone Number

Insert Date

The Honorable [insert full name]
Address
City, State, Zip Code

Salutation

Dear Representative [or Senator] [insert last name]:

Introduce yourself and state your purpose

As a resident of [insert city] in [insert county] county, and a parent, I am writing to ask for your support of **[insert Bill Number]**. This bill would require health benefit plan coverage for hearing aids for children with hearing loss[specify parameters of the bill for example “birth through age 24, up to \$1,000 per ear every 36 months”].

Explain why you are making this request.

We know that the most important development of a young child occurs in the first few years of life, and our obligation to the child does not end there. Our state priorities need to reflect that knowledge. Sixteen other states have passed legislation requiring insurance coverage for hearing aids for children. If passed, this legislation would help my family [elaborate on how your family would benefit].

Make a connection to his/her constituency through a personal story or any fact or figures available.

Our /My son/daughter/children [insert first name(s)] is/are [insert age(s)] years old and [tell about your child(ren) and family] . . .

Hearing aids cost between \$3,000 and \$6,000 or more. My child’s hearing aids cost \$ [insert amount]. In addition, just like glasses, hearing aids need to be replaced or changed over time as a child’s hearing changes.

[If your child uses a CI or CI's vs. hearing aids] I have experienced (witnessed) the impact of high costs associated with hearing devices in my own family. . . .
[AND/OR]

This legislation can ultimately save our community dollars and at a very minimal annual insurance premium increase per insured state citizen. In our case this represents an approximate estimated savings of [insert amount].

Restate your request, and ask him/her to follow-up

I urge you to co-sponsor and support this important legislation. Investing in the early years saves us all money later on. I would appreciate a written reply that states how you voted on this issue.

Thank the legislator for his/her time. [If they have supported issues regarding the deaf and hard of hearing in the past, be sure to mention it!!]

Thank you for your time and consideration. **[Your ongoing support of the deaf and hard of hearing is greatly appreciated!]**

Sincerely,

[Your name]

[You may also want to insert a picture of your child wearing his/her hearing aids.]