Dear SENATOR OR REPRESENTATIVE NAME,

Introduce yourself. Include your name, background on what you do, etc. This would be a good place to let them know if you are a constituent or if your agency serves people in their district.

I am writing with concern about the lack of legislation that would cover the increased expense of proposed paid time off.

With the demographic trend of fewer people in the workforce, we must do all we can to offer strong wages and benefits to individuals who provide critical home care services. While we appreciate your efforts to ensure that robust benefits are being offered, we also need to point out the potential challenges that this legislation will bring.

Providers that offer Medical Assistance home care services are restricted by legislatively-set reimbursement rates. If the legislature passes mandated benefits like ESST and PMFL without corresponding adjustments to Medical Assistance reimbursement rates, providers will face even more difficult decisions about how to continue providing high-quality services to Minnesotans in need of home care services. And there will most assuredly be a greater crisis around access to care.

While there are various MA home care rate increase proposals currently being discussed, their passage is not assured AND providers hope to be able to pass those dollars on in the form of much-needed wage increases. Increased wages are critical for recruitment and retention purposes – to ensure Minnesotans have access to home care services that allow them to remain living in their own homes, in the most cost-effective setting.

I’m asking you to pass legislation that will allocate the investments required to implement these needed increases.

Sincerely,

Your NAME

Board Member

Minnesota Home Care Association

Personal Address (if you are a constituent), Agency address if you are reaching out on behalf of your agency serving clients in their district