Hello \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and I am a constituent as well as an in-home agency service provider serving individuals who experience developmental disabilities in your district. I am writing you today to ask that you ensure that cuts are not made to in-home services as budgets are revised due to COVID-19.

The cost efficient, streamlined model provided by in-home agencies meets critical needs, including those of health and safety. The ADL/IADL support service, which addresses basic needs such as housing, food, and medical management, is currently funded in 2020 (prior to COVID-19) at just under 70% of necessary levels. In-home agencies also provide important community-based DSA and Employment services to sustain those who experience developmental disabilities.

The proposed cuts to in-home services proposed in the ODDS Budget Exercise released on May 12, 2020 would be catastrophic, severely underfunding the ADL/IADL rate, Employment services, and terminating DSA services altogether. The outcome would be agency closures and would result in the loss of critical services for many thousands of vulnerable individuals, as well as thousands of jobs in the DSP workforce.

Residential services were the focus for legislators during the 2019 long session, and this service model received 90% funding, with a 10% temporary increase due to COVID-19. Unfortunately, in-home services were all but left out of the conversation, both in 2019 and during this crisis.

In-home services are cost effective, sustainable, less expensive than residential services and support more individuals. By eliminating these devastating cuts to in-home services, please ensure Oregonian choice is maintained, and allow us to be able to continue providing crucial, life-sustaining services to the individuals we serve.

Thank you,

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