Dear Senator/Delegate (Last Name):

I am writing to you because I am convinced it is time for the General Assembly to address the shortage of services for individuals with brain injury.

Nearly 300,000 Virginians are disabled as a result of brain injury; current levels of state supported funding to provide community based brain injury services is $5.4 million or $19.00 per person.

The reason I care about this is because… (this is where you tell your story…tell them why you care. Describe a program you attend or a service you get and how it helps you. If you are writing from an area where programs have wait lists, or where there are no services available, explain how those services could make a difference in your life).

This year, we are asking for $3 million to improve access to care and treatment. We need specialized community based support services. We need housing options. And we need to invest in an underpaid workforce; roughly 25% of staff working across the state funded brain injury programs left for higher paying jobs last year.

Thank you for taking a moment to consider my comments. If you have any questions or would like more information about the points I have raised, feel free to contact the Brain Injury Association of Virginia at [info@biav.net](mailto:info@biav.net).

Sincerely,