Dear Senator/Delegate (Last Name),

I am writing to you because 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, and there is a severe lack of support and resources available across many parts of the state.

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 tell a little bit about how it helps you. If you are writing from an area where programs have wait lists, or from are area where there are no services available, then tell them how services could make a difference in your life).

This year, we are asking for you to invest in people and services through:

* $675,000 for an increase to brain injury funding to address on-going workforce retention issues experienced by providers.
* Inclusion of full-time employees of DARS’ state-funded Brain Injury Services program contractors in Cost-of-Living increases awarded by the state.
* $1,125,000 to create a “Housing Specialist” position at each state-funded community based BI Program
* $570,000 to expand specialized community-based brain injury case management services

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,

Your Name