Dear Senator [Last name of your Senator],

I am [Name] and I am the [your title] of [your agency], an organization dedicated to supporting Ohioans with intellectual and developmental disabilities. In two or three sentences describe your agency- examples: how many people do you serve, how many employees do you have and how many DSPs do you have, how many counties do you provide services in and their general location in the state, any stats you think set your agency apart.]

I am writing to express my deepest gratitude to Governor DeWine, Director Davis, the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities, and your colleagues in the Ohio House of Representatives who, separately and collectively, made an unprecedented investment in services for Ohioans with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

I am most appreciative of the DeWine administration’s proposal to invest in the homemaker/personal care (H/PC) service to help increase the average wage of direct support professionals (DSPs) and the House’s commitment to further increase the average wage of a DSP providing H/PC. [Add a two or three sentences on how this will help your agency and your DSPs- you may want to focus on your DSPs as a collective group or highlight how the increase could impact one specific DSP. Add two or three sentences on how you believe the increase will benefit the individuals you support.] As an agency committed to providing services to Ohioans with intellectual and developmental disabilities, the investment helps ensure my agency can continue to carry out our mission.

The field of developmental disabilities is in agreement on the direction the field needs to go to adequately support the DSP workforce Ohioans with intellectual and developmental disabilities. On behalf of my agency, my staff, and the individuals we support, I strongly encourage you to support the proposed state budget provisions relevant to the Department of Developmental Disabilities. Together we will succeed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Name, Agency