THANK YOU

[Please put on your agency letterhead]

The Honorable [Legislator’s Last Name]

If writing your Senator use this address: 1 Capital Square

If writing your Representative use this address: 77 South High Street,

Columbus, OH 43215

Dear [Representative or Senator (last name)],

Being a legislator is often a thankless job. Everyday people criticize you, question you, and second-guess every decision you make.

But because of your work, Ohioans with developmental disabilities will live deeper, more meaningful lives. As a person who is dedicated to working with people with disabilities, and on behalf of my fellow providers supporting individuals with developmental disabilities, I would like to thank you for including pay increases for Direct Service Professionals (DSPs) as part of HB 166.

Ohio providers are facing the worst job crisis they have ever seen. Nearly 30% of DSP jobs have gone unfilled. For too long DSPs have faced a tough choice: continue in poverty to work with people with developmental disabilities or leave for a higher-paying job.

HB 166 increases pay for DSPs and will bring new job applicants to work with Ohio citizens with developmental disabilities, ensuring people with disabilities can live a rich and full life surrounded by friends while feeling safe and secure as they go about their day.

Increasing pay for these dedicated servants was the right thing to do.

It can’t be said enough: thank you.

With gratitude,

Your name, title, agency