

{DATE}

Dear Honorable {*REPRESENTATIVE*} or Senator {*SENATOR*} [*note: there should be 3 letters – one for your Representative and one for each of your two Senators*],

As someone closely touched by Neurofibromatosis (NF), I am writing to ask for your support. More funding is needed for further research. Some NF research is moving out of the lab and into human clinical trials and at this critical juncture your support could move us closer to much needed treatments.

I have neurofibromatosis, {*or my child has NF, change as needed*} and as one of your constituents I desperately need you to support neurofibromatosis research.

*{INCLUDE YOUR PERSONAL STORY – THE MOST IMPORTANT PART}*

NF is a set of genetic disorders that cause tumors to grow randomly on nerve endings throughout the body. These tumors commonly occur in the brain and spine and can cause bone deformities, disfigurement, deafness, severe balance problems, loss of mobility and blindness. NF is more prevalent than cystic fibrosis, Duchenne muscular dystrophy and Huntington's disease combined.

*A photo really helps! In fact the story and the photo are the most important thing to include!*

Approximately one out of every 2,500 children are born with NF. Research is needed to address the spectrum of potential complications, which can include tumors on the skin, spine, brain and internal organs and learning disabilities. It is life-long disorder with a variety of potential complications. It is diverse and affects all races. In fact, because the NF gene has such wide ranging impact, it is believed that approximately 175 million Americans benefit from NF research.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,

Your name

Full address (important)