[Your Name]
[Your Address]
[City, State, ZIP Code]
[Date]
[Recipient's Name]
[Office Address]
[City, State, ZIP Code]

Dear [Representative Name],

MAKE A COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT! Editing the original changes it for everyone

I am a licensed acupuncturist in your district, advocating for my patients. I am writing to express my deep concern about the Governor's Proposed 2025-26 Budget, **which includes the elimination of acupuncture as a Medi-Cal benefit**. This cut is alarming for our profession and the many patients who have relied on these for chronic, severe pain.

Please do not eliminate acupuncture from Medi-Cal. Your constituents need our services for the following reasons:

- **Opioid Epidemic Solution:** Since 2016, acupuncture under Medi-Cal has provided a vital treatment alternative to the overuse of prescription medications to treat chronic severe pain, helping combat the opioid crisis.¹
- **Economic Value:** Acupuncture's minimal allocation in the Medi-Cal budget yields significant benefits. Removing it would likely increase the need for more expensive and potentially harmful treatments, raising state healthcare costs.
- **Essential Health Benefit**: Since 2012, acupuncture has been mandated as an essential health benefit under the Affordable Care Act, ensuring acupuncture coverage for patients in California.

Eliminating this benefit would reduce the quality of care for millions and lead to higher long-term costs for the state. I urge you to advocate for retaining acupuncture coverage under Medi-Cal.

Thank you for your attention to this crucial issue. We hope for a favorable resolution that preserves acupuncture coverage for Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

Sincerely,	
[Your Name]	

¹ National Health Law Program. (2020). *Medi-Cal services: Acupuncture*. In *An Advocate's Guide to Medi-Cal Services* (Chapter 11). Retrieved from https://healthlaw.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/NHeLP-MediServicesGuide-Complete-Ch11.pdf