

Template for the letter writing activity:

The Honorable: (Assemblyman/woman, senator)

I would like to introduce myself. My name is *(name)* and I am a constituent of yours, working as an *(occupational therapist, occupational therapy assistant, occupational therapy student)*, in *(city)* *(setting)*.

Occupational therapy practitioners help people across the lifespan impacted by any number of disabilities, diseases, or dysfunction. In Nevada, there are currently 1,642 licensed occupational therapy practitioners. While we are small in number, we are a vital component of meeting healthcare needs in Nevada.

Our services focus on the patient's ability to perform their daily routines safely and independently at home. In fact, a study by Rogers et al. (2016) found that increased spending on occupational therapy services is associated with reduced hospital readmission rates. *(personal story)*.

The reason for this letter is to inform/remind you and your other elected officials that occupational therapy is a vital service that benefits Nevada residents; please reach out to me if you have questions about future legislation or want to learn more about OT!

(citation?) <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/1077558716666981>

Rogers, A. T., Bai, G., Lavin, R. A., & Anderson, G. F. (2016). Higher hospital spending on occupational therapy is associated with lower readmission rates. *Medical Care Research and Review*, 74(6), 668-686. doi:10.1177/1077558716666981

Optional Part 2

It is my hope to establish a relationship with you and your office to discuss healthcare issues that impact your constituents, providers and patients alike. I will contact your office

within the next two weeks, to schedule a time to meet with you. If it is more convenient, I can be reached at (*personal email*).

Thank you for your time,

(name) (credentials)