

Sample Letter to Members of Congress

Dear Senator Clark,

My name is Tim Johnson, and I am a constituent living in Springfield.

Recently I learned that there are 9 million children in America living without health coverage. This issue is important to me because children are our nation's greatest investment and poor health prevents children from reaching their full potential and robs America of its future.

A neighbor, and close friend, works hard but still struggles to afford health coverage for his family. Worrying about whether or not he will be able to afford the health coverage his children need should not be a concern that he or any other person has to face in our nation today.

I urge you, as a member of the next Congress, to support and pass children's health coverage legislation that includes the following:

- 1) Affordable coverage for every child and pregnant woman
- 2) Comprehensive benefits
- 3) Simple enrollment and recertification process
- 4) Ensured real access to services

In 2009, Congress will have the opportunity to cover every child. Don't waste this opportunity. Now is the time to step forward for all children. I am counting on you.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue. I look forward to a reply from your office.

Sincerely,
Tim Johnson
Tim Johnson
1800 Healthychild Lane, Springfield

Step 1: Let your elected officials know **who you are, where you live**, and the **name of the organization** in which you are a member or leader.

Step 2: State the problem: **There are nine million children in America without comprehensive health coverage.**

Let your elected officials know that this is an issue that is important to you:
"This is important to me because..."

Step 3: Include a personal story. If you know of a child or family that has been affected by being uninsured or underinsured, share their story with your lawmakers.

Step 4: Ask your elected officials, as members of the next Congress, to only support health coverage legislation that includes the following:

- Affordable coverage for every child and pregnant woman
- Comprehensive benefits
- Simple enrollment and recertification processes
- Ensured real access to services

Step 5: Let your elected officials know that you are aware of the growing momentum to take up health care reform in 2009 and that you want to make sure that any health care legislation includes health coverage for all children.

Step 6: Thank your Congressional members. Let them know that you will be following up to discuss what they can do to ensure health coverage for every child and pregnant woman.

Be sure to sign your letter and to include your address, phone number and title, if applicable.