

## **Action Alert!**

CBITF Co-chairs and Senator Van Hollen Are Circulating "Dear Colleague Letters" Supporting FY 2023 TBI Funding

March 31, 2022

National Association of State Head Injury Administrators

Please Urge Your U.S. Representative and Senators to Sign "Dear Colleague Letters"

Requesting Increased FY 2023 Funding for Critical TBI Programs

# Deadline for H/S Members to Sign is COB April 22, 2022!

#### Dear NASHIA Member,

Congressional Brain Injury Task Force Co-chairs Rep. Bill Pascrell, Jr. (D-NJ) and Rep. Don Bacon (R-NE) are circulating a "Dear Colleague Letter" in the House seeking Members to sign on to the letter in support of increased TBI funding in the FY 2023 Appropriations bill. The letter is requesting increased funding for:

- Administration for Community Living's TBI State Partnership Program (\$19M)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's TBI Program (\$11,727M, which includes \$5M to implement the National Concussion Surveillance Program)
- Increased funding to increase number of TBI Model Systems Centers and Collaborative Research Projects

Please ask your Representative to sign on to the CBITF letter by **contacting Carrie Swope** in Rep. Pascrell's office at <a href="mailto:carrie.swope@mail.house.gov">carrie.swope@mail.house.gov</a>.

Senator Chris Van Hollen is also circulating a "Dear Colleague Letter" in the Senate seeking support for funding for TBI programs. Please ask your Senators to sign on to the letter by **contacting Martha Sanchez** at <a href="mailto:Martha\_Sanches@vanhollen.senate.gov">Martha\_Sanches@vanhollen.senate.gov</a>.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Susan Vaughn, NASHIA Public Policy Director at <a href="mailto:svaughn@nashia.org">svaughn@nashia.org</a>. Thank you for your assistance.

### **How to Find Your Representative/Senators**

To find your U.S. Representative's website/email click <u>here</u>. To find your U.S. Senators' website/email click <u>here</u>.

You may encounter a word count maximum on the lawmaker's website. However, it is best to keep it as short as possible anyway. If you elect to call, you may ask for the health or disability staffer and tell him/her that you are a constituent calling about TBI funding for FY 2023.

#### Sample Message

#### Your Representative

I am writing to ask your assistance in obtaining increased FY 2023 funding for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Administration for Community Living (ACL), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Programs by signing on to the "Dear Colleague Letter" being circulated by Congressional Brain Injury Task Force Co-Chairs Rep. Bill Pascrell, Jr. (D-NJ) and Rep. Don Bacon (R-NE). These programs assist states with research, data, public education, training and with other initiatives needed to improve and expand service delivery for individuals living with brain injury and their families. In our state\_\_\_# of \_\_\_\_\_ experience a brain injury each year requiring rehabilitation, therapies, and short/long-term services and supports necessary to return to school, work, and community. For further information and/or to sign on you may contact Carrie Swope in Rep. Pascrell's office at <a href="mailto:carrie.swope@mail.house.gov">carrie.swope@mail.house.gov</a> by April 22. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance. Thank you for considering this request.

- You may add your personal or professional story
- Information about how funding helps your State
- Your contact information
- Attach the CBITF Letter

#### **Your Senators**

I am writing to ask your assistance in obtaining increased FY 2023 funding for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) for Community Living (ACL), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Programs by signing on to the "Dear Colleague Letter" being circulated by Senator Chris Van Hollen (D-MD). These programs assist states with research, data, public education, training and with other initiatives needed to improve and expand service delivery for individuals living with brain injury and their families. In our state \_\_\_ # of \_\_\_\_\_ experience a brain injury each year requiring rehabilitation, therapies, and short/long-term services and supports necessary to return to school, work, and community. For further information and/or to sign on you may contact Martha Sanchez at Martha Sanchez@vanhollen.senate.gov by April 22. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance. Thank you for considering this request.

- You may add your personal or professional story
- Information about how funding helps your states
- Your contact information
- Attach Senator Van Hollen's letter

<u>Public Policy Webpage</u>



The National Association of State Head Injury Administrators assists State government

# in promoting partnerships and building systems to meet the needs of individuals with brain injuries and their families.

### **Support States. Grow Leaders. Connect Partners.**

National Association of State Head Injury Administrators | PO Box 1878, Alabaster, AL 35007