**Sample Letter to the Governor Regarding Coronavirus Concerns**

It is very important for people with disabilities and family members to write to Governor Murphy to let him and his administration know about the concerns facing people with disabilities during the coronavirus pandemic.  Below is a sample letter to use as a guide to composing your letter. Remember your situation is unique. If you need help writing a letter or have questions, contact Luke Koppisch, Deputy Director, Alliance Center for Independence at lkoppisch@adacil.org

**Before you start… Consider these:**

* **Be short and to the point.**
* **Keep letter to a few easy to read paragraphs**
* **Stick to one issue or topic (I.e. lack of masks/ gloves).**
* **Talk about how you are personally affected by the issue (My son has autism and he needs me by his side if he ever has to go into the hospital, who will be with him if I am unable to?)**
* **Click on here for a list of concerns ACI shared with the governor or add your own:** [**https://www.adacil.org/latest-updates/coronavirus-concerns**](https://www.adacil.org/latest-updates/coronavirus-concerns)

**Email letter to:**

**Paul S. Aronsohn -Ombudsman for Individuals with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities and Their Families Paul.Aronsohn@treas.nj.gov**

**And  Christine Bakter,  Assistant Ombudsman  Christine.Bakter@treas.nj.gov**

April 8, 2020

Governor Phil Murphy

Office of the Governor

225 West Street

Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Governor Murphy:

I am a person with (tell what the disability is) (or family member of a person with a disability).  I live in(town).

 I rely on person care attendants (PCAs) to help me (my son / daughter) get out of bed, bath me and prepare simple meals.

The lack of masks, gloves and other personal protective equipment makes me (son/daughter) very vulnerable of getting the coronavirus. I am truly scared to the point where I do not allow my PCAs to enter my house.  (add a personal story)

This is not a situation that is unique to me, but I hear from other people with disabilities (families) with the same issue.   I simply need assistance on a daily basis, but do I risk exposure to getting the disease?

Governor Murphy I ask you to make the distribution of masks and gloves and other protective equipment to PCAs, Home Health Aides and Certified Nurses Assistants a priority.

Thank you

Sincerely

(Your Name)

(Phone number)