**TEMPLATE THANK YOU EMAIL FOR NYS LEGISLATORS**

**Final 2025-26 NYS Budget**

**Email Subject:** Thank You for Investing in Nursing Homes in Final Budget

**Email Message:**

Dear Assembly Member/Senator NAME,

On behalf of [Organization Name], I write to thank you for your efforts during this year’s state budget process to support high-quality, mission-driven nursing homes, our residents, and address New York’s broken Medicaid reimbursement practices. We sincerely appreciate your recognition of the challenges facing nursing homes and the inclusion of new investments in the Final Budget for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2025-26.

However, while the budget agreement includes approximately $160 million (M) in **new** Medicaid funding for the State’s over 600 nursing homes (on top of the continuation of last year’s $285 M Medicaid increase), the level of investment falls far short of closing the $1.6 billion gap between costs and Medicaid reimbursement. Unfortunately, the impact of this year’s investments will be diluted by the continuation of a 15% reduction in reimbursement for capital projects, the new increase in the MTA payroll tax for downstate providers, and increased costs for our workforce, food and nutrition, and all other aspects of our operations which impact resident experience.

We understand that no single budget can fix a crisis that has developed over many years, and we know that you and many of your colleagues understand what is at stake if, and when, more nonprofit or public nursing homes are forced to close. Nonetheless, we fear that the failure to restore cuts to capital funding and address the core issues with nursing home Medicaid reimbursement in this year’s budget, means that this year's investments are unlikely to improve access to quality nursing home care, nor will they reduce the strains being felt by hospitals and emergency services.

Fortunately, there is still more work to be done in this year’s New York State legislative session. As your important work continues, I urge you to **reject any legislation that would impose new burdensome mandates or costs on providers** already operating in an untenable environment with inadequate reimbursement and a strained workforce. I urge you to consider what measures will truly serve residents of nursing homes, and which measures would, in practice, simply drive more high-quality providers toward closure or reduction of services.

We are prepared and honored to work with you to find meaningful, long-term solutions that preserve access to quality care for all New Yorkers and allow mission driven providers like us to maintain our services.

Thank you again for your support and partnership.

Sincerely,

NAME

ORGANIZATION

ADDRESS