

Dear \_\_\_\_\_ :

As a member of the Epilepsy Foundation Eastern Pennsylvania (EFEPA) community and a constituent of your district, I am writing to share with you the likely local repercussions of not releasing the 2017-2018 epilepsy funding from budgetary reserve.

House Bill 218 included a statewide appropriation of \$550,000 for epilepsy support services. Specifically, these funds from the PA Department of Health support programs that educate schools and first responders on epilepsy awareness and seizure first-aid conducted by the EFEPA. These initiatives are essential to making our state safe. There are nearly 19,000 school aged children living with epilepsy in PA. Withholding funds now places each student at risk for bodily harm, social bullying and possibly a fatal accident.

Funding for Epilepsy Support Services is an investment in our children, teens, parents and seniors lives in perpetuity. I hope that the state of Pennsylvania will continue to be support our community in this vital effort.

Thank you for your continued support of the over 200,000 Pennsylvanians living with epilepsy.

Respectfully,