

*Sample personal letter to your representative encouraging a YES on a House Vote for H. Res. 404*

date

To (Full Name) Representing the (No.) District of (STATE) in the U.S. Congress:

Please vote “YES” on H. Res. 404, the DIPG Awareness Resolution, now in its fourth Congress and finishing up its 7th year. We have a historic opportunity to shed national light on a problem which has been kept in the dark for far too long, with tens of thousands of souls lost over the years, and tens of thousands of our children’s life-years lost annually just to this one brain tumor alone. None of us know what it is when it afflicts our children, and it is a horrific death sentence. If you have been a cosponsor of this resolution I cannot thank you enough!

If you have been unaware of the resolution, or perhaps biased against its type, as your constituent I’m asking you to please support it now. DIPG is responsible for a significant portion of the annual childhood cancer death toll, and misleading national narratives about childhood cancer keep these and other children in obscurity, and without the help they need. Truth be told, most childhood cancers do not have effective treatments available for them, but old, outdated therapies designed for adult cancers.

Awareness is critical; tragically yet predictably, by 2023, 2800 more children will have been lost to DIPG alone since the first introduction of the resolution in 2016. Despite celebrated progress made in childhood cancer legislation over the last decade with Creating Hope, RACE, STAR, and Gabriella Miller Kids First, ***virtually nothing has changed*** for children with DIPG and other childhood cancers. Our children continue to fight a death sentence, unarmed in an invisible war. Historically, and also predictably, the profit interest dominates human interests in medical research investment.

That’s the toughest part because no one intends this, and we don’t like to think about failure. But until there is an acknowledgement of the children left behind, nothing will change for them fast enough to ease their suffering or save their lives. We have the technology, willing physician scientists to help these kids, and we are literally on the threshold of a cure for DIPG. Yet, tragically, these kids continue to suffer and die due to lack of investment.

We can, and we must do better for our children, now. Thank you!

Sincerely yours,

Name

Street Address

Town, State, ZIP