

## SAMPLE LETTER TO YOUR REPRESENTATIVE

You may write any Member of the House at:

**U.S. House of Representatives**

**Washington, D.C. 20515**

The sample letter below is provided to show the correct format for addressing your Representative. It is impossible to provide one letter that would work for everyone, so personalize your letter to address your concerns or issues regarding this important legislation.

<b>Return Address</b>	Your Name Address City, ST Zip Code
<b>Date</b>	[Insert Date]
<b>Representative's Address</b>	The Honorable [Insert Representative's Name] Address Washington, D.C. 20515
<b>Salutation</b>	Dear Representative [Insert Last Name]:
<b>Introduce yourself and identify you are a constituent and patient.</b>	My name is [Insert Your Name] and I reside at [Insert Your Address] in [Insert Your City], [Insert Your State]. I am a [pemphigus/pemphigoid patient, caregiver, family member, etc].
<b>Why are you writing your Representative?</b>	I am writing you to [thank you for your support, ask you to cosponsor] H.R 460, the <b>Patients Access to Treatments Act of 2013</b> . This legislation is needed by patients like [me, my spouse, parent, child], and others who suffer from rare diseases.
<b>Share your story</b>	<p>I am one of many in our state who suffer from a rare disease. My [Your Disease Type] affects my [skin, eyes, mouth, mucous membranes]. [Tell as much or as little as you want, but remember to stay focused.] For more information on P/P, please visit <a href="http://www.pemphigus.org">www.pemphigus.org</a>.</p> <p>The passing of this bill would increase National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding by \$1.3 billion. The more funding the NIH gets the more research can be done for rare diseases like pemphigus and pemphigoid. It would also prevent insurance companies from increasing "tier four" treatment costs. Many treatments for pemphigus and pemphigoid are considered to be "tier four," and increase costs to these treatments could negatively affect quality of care for me.</p>
<b>Ask for a response</b>	As your constituent, I appreciate your hard work and commitment to this important issue and your response is appreciated.
<b>Thank them</b>	Thank you for listening to my comments.
<b>Closing with your name</b>	Respectfully, [Insert Your Name]