-INSERT LETTERHEAD OF AGENCY-

Dear INSERT REPRESENTATIVE OR SENATOR \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

On behalf of all the members of the Association for Home & Hospice Care of NC (AHHC), I would like to extend a warm invitation for you to visit your constituents within the comfort of their home. At INSERT NAME OF AGENCY , we have been blessed to know these people receiving INSERT HOME and/or HOSPICE CARE or both. We see them on a daily basis and think it important for you to meet them as well.

Your visit will be part of our participation in the AHHC’s “Dome 2 Home” (D2H) program. This initiative seeks to bring our public officials down from the capitol and into the homes and communities of their constituents, the people who are their electorate.

As you know, North Carolina is inevitably positioned to break into the top ten of the most populous states in the country by 2020. From Murphy to Manteo, citizens and their elected officials routinely speak of the pending problems this will bring. First among a majority of individuals’ concerns are the current (and future) burdens placed on the healthcare system, specifically on Medicare and Medicaid. From our shared perspective, we know home and hospice care is already feeling these effects.

Remember, in North Carolina, it is much easier for a person to qualify for Medicaid coverage in a Nursing Home or Assisted Living Facility. Simply put, this will continue to significantly burden Medicaid financially, *but also the individual*, because (1) more seniors than ever are accessing long term health care and (2) most all seniors have to choose these highly expensive options since home and hospice care has poor Medicaid coverage eligibility requirements in North Carolina.

During the next year, you will continue to weigh the solutions to an overburdened healthcare system. But both you and I know part of that solution: ***making the low cost of home care and hospice easier to access for all North Carolina seniors*.** Ask yourself, does it make fiscally good sense for Medicaid to give better coverage (and therefore access) to the most expensive long term care options, i.e. skilled nursing and adult care homes, when the least expensive one, home care or hospice, is what more aging seniors desire to begin with?

Please e-mail, call, or mail our agency concerning your interest in going on a home visit at some point in the near future. Upon receiving your confirmation, Tracy Colvard (AHHC VP of Government Relations & Public Policy) and a D2H ambassador (from your area) will contact you in order to arrange the date, time, and someone to drive you to and from INSERT DESTINATION (i.e. town or city).

Remember, this visit is an experience not only for those who will see you, but also for you as an individual. Our industry is about the future well-being of North Carolinians. As a citizen of this great state, you may ultimately decide to take advantage of the long term care benefits home care and hospice offers. Our door is always open, and we look forward to having you down to see how we work in our houses.

Sincerely,