## SAMPLE LETTER OR EMAIL TO CONGRESS Supporting Senate Bill 765/House Bill 795

- 1. Go here to find a legislator <a href="https://malegislature.gov/Search/FindMyLegislator">https://malegislature.gov/Search/FindMyLegislator</a>
- 2. Draft your letter or email. Example:

To Your Senator:

or

To Your Representative:

The Honorable (full name) (Room #) (Name) Senate Office Building United States Senate Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable (full name) (Room #) (Name) House Office Building United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator:

Dear Representative:

My name is [insert your name here].

I am a [nurse / healthcare professional / emergency technician / stay-at-home parent / teacher / etc.; briefly list any credentials you feel may be pertinent].

I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 765/House Bill 795, which would strengthen the penalty for assault or assault and battery on emergency medical technician, ambulance operator, ambulance attendant or health care providers.

Currently, assault on a healthcare worker in the State of Massachusetts is a misdemeanor. In thirty-three other states, it is a felony.

Strengthening penalties for assaults on healthcare workers could potentially serve as a deterrent and begin to reign in this epidemic.

## Healthcare violence:

- Affects not just the victim, but families and all who hear or bear witness to the abuse.
- Brings a financial impact on employees, employers and others.
  - o For an employee, there may be lost work days resulting from a violent event.
  - For the employer or organization, there are potential liability and litigation costs; costs that can be passed on to all consumers.

In closing, I again urge you to support Senate Bill 765/House Bill 795. I respectfully thank you for your time.

## Sincerely,

[Name] [title if applicable] [full contact information]

## Additional resources:

- Sample letter: <a href="http://usgovinfo.about.com/od/uscongress/a/letterscongress.htm">http://usgovinfo.about.com/od/uscongress/a/letterscongress.htm</a>
- Sample letter: https://www.asbmb.org/Advocacy/advocacy.aspx?id=14388
- Financial Impacts: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/z98pvwz">http://tinyurl.com/z98pvwz</a>