**Sample Grassroots Advocacy Letter - Senate Reconciliation Bill**

**Instructions for Customization:**

* Click on the link to find your Senator’s contact information and instructions on how to contact them (many of their sites have options for contact via email).
* Fill in bracketed information with specific details
* Choose the personal connection that applies to your situation
* Add specific state/district data if available
* Adjust tone based on your relationship with the senator
* Include relevant credentials or institutional affiliations

**[Date]**

The [Honorable **[Senator's Name]**](https://www.senate.gov/senators/senators-contact.htm)
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator **[Last Name],**

I am writing as a constituent and **[member of the chiropractic community/ student/graduate/faculty member]** to express my concerns about the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) reconciliation proposal and its potential impact on chiropractic education and healthcare access in our state.

Thank you for the improvements the Senate has made over the House bill. Excluding the risk-sharing framework, maintaining subsidized loans for undergraduates, and fixing the FAFSA formula for family farms and small businesses are important steps that will help students and families.

However, I am deeply concerned about several provisions that could significantly harm chiropractic education and, ultimately, healthcare access for your constituents:

**Eliminating Graduate PLUS Loans threatens Healthcare Workforce**

The elimination of Graduate PLUS loans would create a significant barrier for students pursuing chiropractic education. These loans are essential for students who need additional funding to complete their professional training. As someone who **[understands the financial challenges of healthcare education/has seen students struggle with educational costs/relies on chiropractic care]**, I know that restricting access to federal aid will ultimately reduce the number of healthcare providers available to serve our communities.

When patients in **[your state/district**] need chiropractic care they shouldn't face provider shortages because we made it too difficult for students to afford their education.

**Borrowing Limits May Not Reflect Education Costs**

While I appreciate that the Senate maintained higher borrowing limits for professional programs, the $200,000 aggregate limit may still be insufficient for chiropractic education, which requires extensive clinical training. Unlike some graduate programs, chiropractic students cannot work full-time during their clinical rotations, making them more dependent on federal aid.

Pushing students into the private loan market means higher interest rates and fewer protections - ultimately making their debt burden even greater when they enter practice.

**New Repayment Plans Could Burden New Practitioners**

The proposed changes to Income-Driven Repayment plans, particularly the elimination of income protection, concern me greatly. Many new chiropractic graduates start their careers in underserved areas or spend years building their practices. The current IDR plans provide crucial breathing room for these healthcare providers. Without income protection, we risk forcing new graduates away from areas that need them most.

**[Optional: Include Your Personal Connection]**

***Add a personal paragraph here that explains why this issue matters to you specifically.***

*Strong personal connections might include:*

* *Your experience as a chiropractic student facing financial challenges*
* *Your perspective as a recent graduate managing educational debt*
* *Your role as faculty who has seen student concerns about financing their education*
* *Your experience as a patient who has benefited from chiropractic care*
* *Your story as a parent concerned about healthcare access for your family*
* *Your perspective as a healthcare provider seeing the impact of workforce shortages*
* *Your experience in your community where chiropractic care has made a difference*

**[Optional: Include State-Specific Healthcare Impact Data]**

***Add a paragraph here that connects chiropractic education to healthcare needs in your state.***

*Effective additions might include:*

* *Statistics about the number of chiropractors currently practicing in your state*
* *Data on healthcare access challenges or provider shortages in your area*
* *Information about chiropractic care's role in addressing specific health issues (musculoskeletal problems, pain management, etc.)*
* *Economic impact data about chiropractic care in your state*
* *Patient satisfaction or outcome data*
* *References to state health department reports or healthcare workforce studies*

As you continue working on this important legislation, I hope you will consider advocating for reasonable modifications to the Graduate PLUS elimination that preserve access to healthcare education, ensuring professional program borrowing limits adequately reflect the true costs of healthcare training, maintaining income protection provisions in repayment plans to support healthcare professionals, and clarifying the Pell Grant eligibility language to avoid unintended consequences for students with institutional aid. I know these issues are complex, but there are solutions that can address fiscal concerns while still supporting the next generation of healthcare providers.

Thank you for your continued support of higher education and healthcare access. I know you understand that investing in healthcare education is investing in the health and well-being of [state] families. I hope I can count on your leadership to ensure these important concerns are addressed as the reconciliation process moves forward.

I welcome the opportunity to discuss this further with you or your staff. Please feel free to contact me at **[phone] or [email].**

Sincerely,

[Your Name]
[Your Title/Credentials]
[Institution/Organization]
[Address]
[City, State, ZIP]
[Phone]
[Email]