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Date:

..... MP
House of Commons London
SW1A 0AA

Dear

I am writing to ask you to support for the All Party Parliamentary Group on Spinal Cord Injury (APPG) which has been established to address the numerous issues currently faced by spinal cord injured (SCI) people in the UK. The group is chaired by Ian Lucas, MP for Wrexham.

The APPG is particularly concerned about the funding and capacity issues which are faced by the Spinal Cord Injury Centre Service within the NHS, and seeks to preserve and develop the service to meet the needs of a population of circa 40,000 SCI people. The APPG's most important success to date is the recent establishment of the National Spinal Cord Injury Strategy Board, which is enabling the APPG to better pursue its goals within the health service.

I am a member of the Spinal Injuries Association (SIA), which is the national organisation of SCI people. Since its creation in 1974 SIA has successfully campaigned on many issues affecting not only its own members, but also the wider disabled community. SIA has now turned its full attention to the issues currently facing the UK's SCI Centres and is supporting the APPG with secretarial and research support. I consider this current campaign by SIA to be the most important matter it has been involved in since its formation. Its success or failure will dramatically affect thousands of spinal cord injured people and their families across the UK, many of whom, like myself, may be your constituents.

As a member of your constituency I am asking you to please support the work of this parliamentary group by becoming a member. If you are one of those who has already joined the APPG may I take this opportunity of thanking you on behalf of the SIA and its members for your support.

I would greatly appreciate it if you could support the APPG and learn more about the issues that are faced by myself and your other SCI constituents and their families. If you are able to join the group, please contact Catherine Stribling on 0845 678 6633 ext 206, or email c.stribling@spinal.co.uk

Thank you for taking the time to consider my request.

Yours sincerely,

Signed