SAMPLE LETTER [PLACE YOUR LOGO OR PERSONAL LETTERHEAD]

[Your Address/Info]

[Date]

Dear Senator XXXXXX

My name is  XXXXXXXXXXX, and I am a pharmacist with xxxxxxxxxx, as well as a member of the North Carolina Association of Pharmacists.

I write to ask you to vote YES on House 96, "Allow Pharmacists to Administer Injectable Drugs”, important legislation introduced by Representative Sasser.

Our state used to be a national leader when it comes to the role that pharmacists play in health care.  We have fallen woefully behind in many ways.  Did you know that: except for immunizations, North Carolina is one of only 3 states in which there is no statute allowing for medication administration by pharmacists?

There is a growing need in North Carolina for better access to health care, especially in rural areas.  Pharmacists are educated and trained to administer medications, and are the leading experts on medications among all health professionals.

Some injectables require a health professional to administer the medicine; and for self-administered medicines, often patients or caregivers need assistance, and without it, they can decompensate, leading to more costly healthcare interventions, such as urgent care, emergency department visits, and hospitalization.  Pharmacists can help address this need for a variety of injectables drugs, including many commonly used in some of our more vulnerable populations:  elderly, disabled, chronically ill, and mental health patients.

In addition, community pharmacists are the most accessible healthcare professionals.  Many counties in North Carolina do not have a practicing psychiatrist, and for mental health patients requiring injectable medicines, pharmacists can help ensure their medication is administered on a timely basis, improving their ability to lead higher quality and productive lives.

I am attaching a brief infographic, including a video that highlights these and other important issues. [YOU MAY WANT TO INCLUDE THE INFOGRAPHIC LOCATED UNDER THIS ISSUES ‘MORE INFORMATION BUTTON’ OR YOU CAN PROVIDE YOUR OWN PERSONAL EXPERIENCE AS TO WHY THIS BILL IS IMPORTANT TO YOUR COMMUNITY AND PATIENTS.]

Please sign on to support and vote YES, for HB 96 “Allow Pharmacists to Administer Injectable Drugs” to provide greater access to care for patients across our great state. I would be happy to serve as a resource or to answer any questions you may about this bill.

Sincerely,

xxxxxxxxxx