

## Sample Advocate Letter addressed to Legislators in support of Turner Syndrome Awareness

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

First Last, Title  
Street 1  
City, State Zip

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

I am writing to respectfully ask you to support Assembly Resolution Bill No. XXXXX sponsored by XXX, which is scheduled for an Assembly vote XXXXX. Bill XXXXXX declares February as “Turner Syndrome Awareness Month,” a declaration we hope will become an annual event, and will bring awareness to a **women’s health issue** affecting thousands of New Jersey residents and their families. This important legislation will focus the spotlight on the Syndrome and motivate programs to inform a variety of caregivers regarding its effects and effective treatment.

Legislative Bill XXXXXX brings much needed attention to the health of 85,000 females in the U.S. who experience Turner Syndrome’s serious physical and emotional effects. More than 30% of girls born with Turner are not diagnosed until they are 15 years of age and only 3.5% receive adequate care. Early diagnosis and long-term medical surveillance will raise the overall well-being for those living with Turner. The Syndrome, affecting over 2 million women worldwide, **is the most prevalent chromosomal syndrome among females:** It impacts 1 in 2,000 live female births, which represent only 1% of fetuses with Turner Syndrome that actually survive. This spectrum disorder occurs randomly at the time of conception and, while it affects females only, can affect individuals regardless of race, socioeconomic status, or ethnicity, or parents’ histories. Significant risks and effects to the endocrine system include a potentially fatal heart defect and kidney issues, clinically short stature (final height of 4’8” if not treated), sexual development complications and infertility issues, autoimmune disease, hearing loss, dysmorphic features, learning and psycho-social issues, among others. Public and professional awareness is critical, especially for (a) parents who may not know to attribute their daughters’ symptoms to Turner Syndrome, (b) medical residents and professionals who miss diagnosing it and are unaware of its long-term effects, and (c) educators and school psychologists who when they are sufficiently knowledgeable about Turner Syndrome can provide valuable counseling to students across all grades.

I am incredibly grateful for your support of Bill XXXXXX to help all girls, regardless of background, receive the optimal care and outcomes they deserve. This resolution can make a difference and provide dignity of care to families in need. I applaud the Turner Syndrome Foundation’s efforts to organize awareness programs and generate public interest in conjunction with this proclamation.

Sincerely yours,

Advocate for Raising Turner Awareness

(first and last name)

(address)