Dear [Name],

I need your help to save the Ryan White CARE Act.

Any day now, the House of Representatives will vote on whether to reauthorize this critical legislation.

If the House fails to renew the bill -- or loads it with amendments that single out gay and lesbian Americans for discrimination -- on October 1 our friends, lovers and family members with AIDS will lose access to the services they need to survive.

Doctor visits will be canceled. Prescriptions will go unfilled. Food will not be delivered. Men and women seeking refuge in emergency shelters will be put back out on the street.

That's why I urge you to do two things right now.

1. Sign and return the enclosed petition to your representative in Congress, telling him or her to vote to reauthorize the Ryan White CARE Act to maintain lifesaving services to women, men and children with AIDS.

2. With your signed petition, enclose an emergency contribution of $55 to the Human Rights Campaign Fund to help us maintain and expand the CARE Act and other federal legislation that protects gay and lesbian Americans.

Since 1990, the Ryan White CARE Act has been a lifeline for people with HIV/AIDS, many of whom have lost their jobs, their health insurance and their will to live.

Funds from the CARE Act allow 350,000 people with AIDS to see their doctors regularly, obtain lifesaving AIDS medications, and eat nutritious meals -- all the things that help people with AIDS live longer, healthier lives.

But the CARE Act will expire September 30th unless both houses of Congress reauthorize the bill for another five years.
A few weeks ago, HRCF helped to pass the Ryan White CARE Act of 1995 in the Senate with strong bipartisan support. But people with AIDS will not be safe until the CARE Act also passes the House.

So HRCF has launched an intensive lobbying campaign in the House to build support for the CARE Act.

And fortunately, we can count on the American people to help us fight to preserve this critical funding.

A recent national survey commissioned by HRCF shows that nearly eight out of ten Americans support maintaining or increasing AIDS funding. And more than half would be less likely to re-elect a member who voted against federal funding for people with AIDS.

But as you know, there are those in Congress who will stop at nothing to attack gay and lesbian Americans.

When the Senate debated the CARE Act, Jesse Helms tried to bar gay Americans from receiving lifesaving medical services through this legislation.

So HRCF flooded Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole with 14,000 letters and dozens of news stories to reject Helm's discriminatory amendments and to renew the Ryan White CARE Act. One Senator even quoted HRCF's survey in urging his colleagues to vote "yes."

Thanks to support from members like you, HRCF helped pass the Ryan White CARE Act in the Senate. And now we need the help of every HRCF member to pass it in the House -- without anti-gay amendments.

So please sign and return the enclosed petition to your House representative today.

And if at all possible, please include a generous contribution to help HRCF expand our work for the equality, safety and health of gay and lesbian Americans.

AIDS is now the #1 killer of all Americans age 25-44. You and I know that our nation cannot afford to retreat on this epidemic.

With your help, HRCF will carry that message to Congress on behalf of all fair-minded Americans. Please, reply today.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Birch
Executive Director

P.S. HRCF is one of the most visible and influential organizations lobbying on AIDS issues, according to a recent poll of Congressional offices. HRCF helped the CARE Act reauthorization pass in the Senate, but the Senate is only half the battle -- now the bill goes to the House. Please sign the enclosed petition and return it with a generous contribution to HRCF today to help people with AIDS get the care they need to survive!
Human Rights Campaign Fund
1101 14th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20005

YES! I strongly support HRCF in its efforts to reauthorize the Ryan White CARE Act, which provides medical care, food and other vital services to people living with HIV disease and AIDS. Here's how I will help:

I have signed the petition below urging my representative in Congress to vote for H.R. 1872, which reauthorizes the Ryan White CARE Act -- without amendments that single out gay and lesbian Americans for discrimination. Please deliver my petition personally to my representative.

I am making an urgently needed contribution to HRCF in support of its work for the equality, safety and health of gay and lesbian Americans. Enclosed is my emergency contribution in the amount of:

- $35  - $55  - $70  - Other $____

I prefer not to return my petition, but I have enclosed a contribution to HRCF in the amount of:

- $35  - $55  - $70  - Other $____

Representative Carolyn B. Maloney
1504 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-3214

Dear Representative Maloney:

I strongly urge you to support H.R. 1872, the Ryan White CARE Act Reauthorization Bill of 1995.

This critical legislation must be renewed quickly so that vital medical and support services to people living with HIV disease and AIDS are not interrupted.

There can be no retreat on AIDS! Please do all you can to make sure the CARE Act passes the House immediately and without amendments that single out gay and lesbian Americans for discrimination.

Respectfully,

214360
MH5M52

Please send this entire form, along with your check payable to the Human Rights Campaign Fund, in the envelope provided to: 1101 14th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005. Because your contribution supports aggressive lobbying, it is not tax-deductible.
The Ryan White CARE Act provides essential, life sustaining medical and support services to more than 350,000 women, men and children living with HIV/AIDS in communities across America.

The Human Rights Campaign Fund strongly supports the reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act, and urges Congress to oppose any amendments that would exclude gay and lesbian people or affect the ability of states and local communities to target funds to local providers to address the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

Please turn over to sign your petition supporting the Ryan White CARE Act today!