Date

Assembly or Senate Name

Address

Dear \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

In 2016, the US Senate established World Lymphedema Day on March 6th. The event was celebrated worldwide and resolutions were passed in State Houses to recognize this day. In honor of this day, I ask that the [Your State] [Senate or Assembly] pass a resolution in [year, e.g. 2018] honoring [name of person to be recognized] who has proved to be a true champion of the cause of fighting lymphedema and lymphatic diseases. I have attached a draft resolution that outlines his/her extraordinary contributions.

Lymphedema (LE) is a disease that affects up to 10 million Americans and 170 million people worldwide. It can be hereditary or acquired as a result of cancer treatment or physical trauma. Up to 30% of women who survive breast cancer will get this debilitating disease that results in the accumulation of lymph fluid in the limbs when the lymphatic system is damaged. Similarly, survivors of prostate and ovarian cancers and melanoma are susceptible. Our veterans suffer from this as a result of battle injury or trauma from surgery. And our children are born with this disease. Currently, there is no cure. The effects are lifelong, drastically affect quality of life and can lead to shorten lifespan.

The Lymphatic Education & Research Network (LE&RN) is an International Organization that fights lymphedema and lymphatic diseases through education, research and advocacy. They were responsible for the US Senate establishing World Lymphedema Day, with Sen. Charles Schumer (NY) and Sen. Charles Grassley (IA) the sponsors. We need to bring attention to lymphatic diseases and lymphedema in our state in hopes that new treatments will be discovered and so that we will one day have a cure. This all starts with public awareness and the champions who bring these diseases to public attention.

I ask that you consider passing the resolution [“The [state] Chapter of LE&RN] is submitting to [the [State][Assembly or Senate] honoring [name of recipient] on March 6th World Lymphedema Day.

Sincerely,

[Name]

LE&RN Chapter Chair, [State]