**Sample email to legislators**

Dear Senator or Delegate \_\_\_\_\_,

I am an occupational therapy / assistant student at \_\_\_\_\_.

Or

I am an occupational therapist / occupational therapy assistant,

As you may know, while occupational therapists are approved Medicaid providers, occupational therapy assistants, supervised by an occupational therapist, currently cannot provide services to Medicaid recipients in the state. **I would appreciate your help and potentially your sponsorship of legislation, which would include occupational therapy assistants as eligible Medicaid providers.**

Occupational therapy services enable people of all ages to live life to its fullest by promoting health and minimizing the functional effects of illness, injury, and disability. Like occupational therapists, occupational therapy assistants are licensed in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico and compromise a large part of the rehabilitation workforce in the state of West Virginia.

By allowing occupational therapy assistants to provide services to Medicaid recipients, individuals across West Virginia will be able to have access to critical rehabilitation and habilitation services. Under the supervision of occupational therapists, occupational therapy assistants can provide education and intervention services that prevent falls, improve self-efficacy, prevent functional decline, while also potentially decreasing emergency room visits and/or hospital readmissions.

Please let me know if I can provide further information to you.

Sincerely,