

*Note: Phone calls are most effective so please consider leaving a message with your gratitude with those who answer the phones in your representative and senators' DC offices. You can find this info and transmit a message via the COPD Action Center at <https://www.votervoice.net/COPD/campaigns/53173/respond>. Please use this link when sharing on social media.*

### *Email Template*

As your constituent, and someone affected by chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). I am writing to ask you to join the Congressional COPD Caucus to show your support for the 16 million Americans with COPD and the millions who have it but don't yet know it. This bicameral, bipartisan group has been influential in raising awareness about the nation's fourth leading cause of death, in progressing the COPD National Action Plan, released in May 2017, and relaxing restrictions on traveling with oxygen, allowing millions to fly once again.

Co-Chaired by Senators Durbin and Crapo and Representative Chris Stewart, the COPD Caucus includes nearly 40 members fighting for common sense solutions to improve the lives of those with COPD and lower the burden the disease places on the health and productivity of their communities.,

COPD includes emphysema, chronic bronchitis and in some cases, asthma. While most cases are caused by tobacco exposure, fumes, chemicals, dust, and genetics also play a role in developing COPD, even if the person has never used tobacco. COPD is a progressive disease that makes it hard to breathe and causes hundreds of thousands of hospitalizations every year and over 150,000 deaths each year.

Despite its enormous and growing impact, there is reason to hope and there are actions we can take to make progress in improving health and lowering costs related to COPD. I hope you will join me and stand with the COPD community as a member of the COPD Caucus to bring attention and support to this leading cause of death.

To join the Caucus please contact one of the following offices:

Jessica McNiece in Sen. Durbin's Office at [jessica\\_mcniece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:jessica_mcniece@durbin.senate.gov)

Kellie McConnell in Sen. Crapo's Office at [kellie\\_mconnelle@crapo.senate.gov](mailto:kellie_mconnelle@crapo.senate.gov).

Luci Arveseth in Rep. Stewart's Office at [luci.arveseth@mail.house.gov](mailto:luci.arveseth@mail.house.gov)

### *Twitter Template*

COPD is the 4th leading cause of death. Show your support the 16 million individuals with COPD and help find solutions. Join the COPD Caucus Today! #copd #congressionalcopdcaucus #copdawareness