The following is a general telephone script which can be used for those unable to attend Older Adult Lobby Day.  We strongly encourage personalization to make the message your own!

Dear [LEGISLATOR NAME]:

[INCLUDE 1 -2 SENTENCES EXPLAINING WHY YOU'RE CALLING OR WHY THESE ISSUES ARE IMPORTANT TO YOU - ARE YOU A BOARD MEMBER, AN ASAP/AAA STAFF MEMBER, A CONSUMER?]

In Massachusetts, 23% of the population is age 60 or older and it's estimated that by 2030, that will rise to 26%.  In fact, Massachusetts has 143 older adults (60+) for every 100 school-age children.  Among these older adult households, approximately 25% have incomes below $20,000.  With the projected growth in those aged 60+ and the need to provide more services, level funding is equivalent to a budget cut, and the recent 9C cuts of close to $10.8 million in programs for older adults - including a $1 million cut in the Senior Nutrition Program -were devastating to the Aging Services Access Points (ASAPs) who provide these much-needed support and services.

With this background in mind, I am asking you to support these budget priorities for FY25:

**Increase the Senior Nutrition Program Line Item 9110-1900 by $3 million**

**Increase the SHINE Health Benefits Counseling Program Line Item 9110-1455 by $3 million**

**Increase the Elder Mental Health Outreach Team (EMHOT) Line Item 9110-1640 by $2 million**

**Increase the Elder Supportive Housing Program Line-Item 9110-1604 by $3.8 million to expand the program by 20 Additional Sites**

I'm also asking you to support the following legislation being considered in the 2023 – 2024 Legislative session:

**An Act Allowing Spouses to Serve as Caregivers [**[**S.67**](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/193/S67)**/**[**H.216**](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/193/H216)**]**

**An Act Clarifying Rate Setting Processes for Home Health and Home Care Services [**[**S.755**](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/193/S755)**/**[**H.1195**](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/193/H1195)**]**

**An Act Relative to Intensive Case Management for Clinically Complex Older Adults [**[**S.370**](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/193/S370)**/**[**H.630**](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/193/H630)**]**

**An Act relative to expanding the availability of personal care homes for older adults [**[**S.385**](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/193/S385)**/**[**H.634**](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/193/H634)**]**

You can learn more about Mass Home Care's [**legislative priorities for 2023-2024**](https://masshomecare.info/wp/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/MHC-Legislative-Priorities.pdf) and [**budget priorities for FY25**](https://masshomecare.info/wp/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/MHC-Budget-Priorities.pdf) on the Advocacy Action page of our website: [masshomecare.info](https://masshomecare.info/wp/advocacy-action/)

Thank you for your work to support older adults and healthy aging throughout Massachusetts - and especially in your district!

[YOUR NAME] from [ADDRESS/CITY]