**SAMPLE LETTER – RETIREES PRESCRIPTION PLAN**

Dear \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and I am a retired State of Maryland employee. I started with the state on (hire year) and worked as a (job title/s) for the (agency) until I retired in (retirement year). I made the decision to stay with the State because 1.) I felt that it was worth contributing my time and talents to serve the people of Maryland and 2.) due to the benefits I was informed I would receive after I worked a certain number of years.

In 2018, State retirees were notified that the State would no longer subsidize the prescription program we were promised and that we would be transferred to Medicare Part D. Unfortunately, this plan does not cover (some/many/all) of my prescriptions on which I rely.

Fortunately for us, a lawsuit was filed against the State of Maryland by Fitch et al, in which the judge placed an injunction against the removal of the prescription program. The injunction was lifted on July 29, 2023, which means that State retirees will be covered until the 2025 Health Insurance Plan option is open. Though we will be able to continue our insurance coverage, we will not have prescription coverage.

This is a travesty to State of Maryland retirees. Retirees have endured prior administrations chipping away at our retirement funds to cover budget deficiencies, but this is the straw that broke the camel’s back.

On a fixed budget, with inflation rising every minute, I am now forced to decide whether to pay my (rent/mortgage, utilities, food,) or medications.

I am writing to request your assistance in restoring the State of Maryland retiree prescription plan as it was before 2018. For my years of service to the State and to the public, this is not much to ask.

(Anything else you would like to add.)

Sincerely,

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