

Hello (X),

It was great to speak with you just now about the possibility of meeting with (X) to share my story and discuss introducing an awareness resolution for Topical Steroid Withdrawal Syndrome (TSW). I have attached drafted model language that could be used or amended to suit the state of (X) along with additional resources for review around the condition.

To recap and provide a bit of background, I would like to request a meeting with the (senator/representative) to talk about a very important emerging public health issue, a condition called Topical Steroid Withdrawal Syndrome (TSW), which has affected me personally as well as countless others here in (X), the United States and around the world.

TSW is a severe and protracted cluster of symptoms resulting from over-exposure to topical steroid creams used to treat chronic skin conditions such as eczema. This condition is not only terribly painful and debilitating, but also has an indefinite timeline and can last for months to years without relief.

Many of those experiencing TSW are unable to work, go to school, or care for their children. Many lose their jobs, their partners, or their academic pursuits in the process. Not surprisingly, mental health issues often accompany TSW, as the majority of these patients also battle anxiety, depression and suicidal ideation as a result of living in constant suffering and experiencing such great personal loss.

Although TSW is still considered an emerging condition, it has been acknowledged by governing agencies and institutions, such as the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) and the British Academy of Dermatology in the UK (see additional resource attachment) along with those in other countries. Unfortunately, the US is lagging in addressing the problem and the majority of our physicians, including specialists, are largely unaware of these risks and how to recognize or treat TSW.

It is imperative that the house of medicine get ahead of this problem to assist the growing population of these patients through awareness, prevention, diagnostic and treatment education, and is the reason behind my asking that our state would introduce this resolution.

Please let me know if the (senator/representative) has some availability in the near future to discuss this important matter. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration and all that your office does to serve our fellow (X) i.e. Georgians).

Sincerely,

(Your name)

(Your address)

(Your phone number)