SAMPLE E-MAIL MESSAGE TO SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN SUPPORT OF NEW JERSEY CHARITABLE GIVING INCENTIVES LEGISLATION (S-264)

SUBJECT: Pass S-264, Charitable Contributions Tax Deduction

Dear Senator X,

I write today to ask for your support for S-264, a bill that would allow New Jersey taxpayers to deduct charitable contributions from their state taxable income.

Here at [your organization], we have already felt the negative impact of the federal tax law changes. Reduction in financial giving directly affects our ability to provide [description of your services] to our clients. This bill would put New Jersey into the majority of states that provide state-level giving incentives. Importantly, unlike the federal deduction which is now only available to the top 10% of taxpayers, this incentive would be available to both itemizers and non-itemizers alike so that generous New Jerseyans at all income levels could benefit.

S-264 (including any amendment to cap deductions) would help to increase donations for non-profits across the state as they provide programs and services that our residents need now more than ever. This in turn would leverage government funding for many programs, while also providing tax relief to all New Jersey contributors, especially low-and moderate-income taxpayers.

As you may know, similar legislation (S-2179) passed the Senate unanimously last session. We now need the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee to support this bill on March 16th to strengthen the non-profit community, benefit the state’s taxpayers, and grow the state’s economy. Thank you for your consideration.