**Template Letter of Support for VGB Re-authorization**

Date:

[Name & Address of your House member]

Dear \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:

Please accept this letter as our strong and enthusiastic support for the Re-authorization of the *Virginia Graeme Baker Pool & Spa Safety Act* (HB 5202). We urge you to do the same. It has already successfully moved through the House Energy & Commerce Committee and will soon be brought to the House Floor.

As you are probably aware, the VGB Act was passed by Congress with bipartisan support in 2007 and signed into law by President Georg W. Bush. The VGB Act changed, for the better, the way public pools and spas are built and maintained in this country and was designed to prevent pool and spa entrapments. We are so proud to say that the law has been a wild success. Since the passage of the Act, there has not been a single entrapment death in a public pool anywhere in the nation. The Act also addressed water safety education by establishing and funding the Pool Safely Campaign and an incentive grant program for States and Municipalities to both motivate them to legislatively address risks associated with residential pools/spas and, in turn, provides funds to help enforce the laws and educate caregivers about what they can do to prevent entrapments and traditional forms of drowning.

Now 15 years later, we agree with many of your other colleagues that it is time to revisit the law to make sure we are continuing the great success from the past, and also refresh the law so that we are properly addressing other water safety risks in the future. This re-authorization does just that. If passed, it will ensure that the Consumer Product Safety Commission’s (CPSC) authority to act is maintained, continues the critical funding for the incentive grant program and the accompany education campaigns, expands the eligibility for the incentive grant fund grantees to qualified non-profits and builds a stronger infrastructure at the CPSC to make sure the efforts are implemented more robustly and effectively.

[Insert general information about your story, organization or company]

Please know that {name of company} stands ready, willing, and able to help with your effort in any fashion, if you choose to support the Bill. If we can be of service, please contact us personally at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Best regards,