Dear Ms/Mr [MEP’s name]

Congratulations on your election to the European Parliament!

My name is [Your name] and I live in [country]. I am writing to you as a member of [add local organisation, if relevant] and the European Network on Independent Living (ENIL). I would like to request your financial support for my participation in the Freedom Drive, which will take place in Brussels, on the 23rd – 25th of September 2024.

The Freedom Drive is one of the key campaigns of the European Network on Independent Living (ENIL) – held every two years since 2003. It brings together disabled people, activists, their friends, and allies from across Europe by providing supporters of the Independent Living Movement with the unique opportunity to meet MEPs and promote human rights issues, as well to share experiences and ideas with colleagues from around Europe. The Freedom Drive consists of workshops, a protest and an all-day conference. In addition, on the 24th September, there will be a hearing in the European Parliament.

Unfortunately, due to the high cost of travel and the lack of funds, my organisation is not able to support me (and my personal assistant) financially to travel, stay and participate in this very important event for the disability community. I therefore hope that, as an MEP, you may be in a position to do so.

As a disabled person, I find it important to take part in the Freedom Drive and to represent my organisation and my country in the discussions and meetings with other organisations, as well as the representatives of the European Commission and the European Parliament.

I would also like to take this opportunity to request a meeting with you in person on the 23rd of September, during the Freedom Drive, to discuss the issues faced by disabled people in [country].

As a member of the European Parliament, your work is crucial in addressing the challenges faced by people with disabilities and advancing their right to living independently. I, and my organisation, are particularly interested in understanding your perspective on policy ideas and other legislative initiatives within the European Union.

Thank you for considering my request, and I look forward to the opportunity to discuss these important matters with you. You may reach me at [email] [phone number]

Kind regards,

[Your name/ and organisations name]