**Genetic Counselor Licensure: Letter of Support**

***Please use personal letterhead, if possible***

[Date]

[Name]

[Title]

[Address]

I write to express my support for initiatives that will improve access to quality healthcare services, including genetic counseling services, in [State].  I support the [State’s Organization spearheading licensure] efforts to secure licensure for genetic counselors in [State] as means toward this end.

The rapid growth of medical genetics has affected virtually all areas of medicine. Providing quality genetic counseling services has become increasingly critical, as more consumers base healthcare decisions on genetic-risk factors and genetic test results.

Genetic counselors are Master’s-trained healthcare professionals who provide consumers with information, education, counseling, advocacy, and emotional support for medical conditions that have genetic indications.  Licensure for genetic counselors is essential to ensuring that genetic counseling providers are appropriately trained and credentialed so that individuals receive proper information and care.

Currently, [State] does not legally specify who may use the title of genetic counselor.  Licensure for genetic counselors is an important mechanism the help consumers identify appropriately qualified genetic counseling providers.

Please consider championing/supporting legislation for genetic counselor licensure in [State].

Sincerely,

[Name]