(Please amend this email you see fit, make it personal and add your own experiences!)

**Subject: The Schools (Residential Outdoor Education) (Scotland) Bill**

Dear [MSP's Name],

My name is [Your Name], and I live in [Your Constituency/ Local Authority].

**I am writing to you on behalf of the campaign to support The Schools (Residential Outdoor Education) (Scotland) Bill, introduced by Liz Smith MSP.**

This aims to ensure all pupils in state and grant-aided schools in Scotland experience at least four nights and five days of high-quality residential outdoor education during their school career.

**I am deeply concerned about the following**: [give your own reasons for supporting the Bill. Make it personal and make it urgent. If you wish, use these points]

* Only 25% of primary and 33% of secondary pupils attend residentials, perpetuating inequality and denying life-changing opportunities.
* Pupils from poorer backgrounds and those with Additional Support Needs (ASN) face cost barriers, making them less likely to attend residentials, even though evidence shows they benefit the most from these experiences.
* A YouGov survey found nearly half of parents (45%) cannot afford trips and outings, rising to 57% in working-class communities.
* Research indicates that Scottish pupils are the least happy in Europe, experiencing poor physical and mental health, declining attendance, and rising violence in schools.
* The UNCRC's incorporation into Scottish law reinforces children's rights. The Children's Parliament report*, Learning for Sustainability*, calls for annual outdoor school camps for all children. Disappointingly, this call to action remains unfulfilled.

These issues underscore the critical need for legislative action.

**The Education, Children and Young People (ECYP) Committee recognised this and agreed the principles of the Bill, and stated**:

* “***The Committee recognises that residential outdoor education can bring life-changing benefits to both pupils and teachers, building pupils’ confidence and***

***believes there is significant positive value to residential outdoor education in***

***developing the teacher-pupil relationship and improvement in attainment.***

***Given these benefits, the Committee believes that all pupils should have the***

***opportunity to experience residential outdoor education at some point in their***

***school career.***”

The current system is not working and is failing to realise the full potential of our young people.

**I urge you to support this Bill and ensure all children, regardless of income, can benefit from these life changing experiences.**

Please let me know how you will vote on this Bill and why.

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

[Your Full Name]

[Your Contact Information] [Your Address/Constituency]