

To Whom It May Concern.

I am writing on behalf of the Behcet's community and the rare disease community. The purpose of this letter is to express the importance of creating the Rare Disease Advisory Council in the state of Michigan.

Favorable changes are necessary for patients living with rare diseases. Positive changes will improve quality of life and life expectancy, impact disability and mortality rates, enhance participation in societal and day to day activities and ultimately, promote better outcomes for those affected by rare diseases.

The Rare Disease Advisory Council will act as an advisory board that will allow rare diseases to have a voice in state government, create a rare patient-centered culture, fuel collaborative partnership and offer support to our patients.

Sincerely.

Mirta Avila Santos, MD

**Executive Director** 

American Behcet's Disease Association