

MomentUs Summer Action Campaign — LTE

Join leaders from across sectors and our nation to turn up the heat on local and national policymakers and ask them to make August Recess count for climate action. The campaign includes submitting a letter to the editor, calling your congressperson, and inviting others to join MomentUs and the summer action campaign.

The following are instructions and your starting template for a personalized letter to the editor (LTE) to submit to your local paper. You may also use this template as content for a blog for the local chapter of your health, faith, environmental, or civic association.

WHY

- Reach and persuade a large audience to care and act on climate
- Persuade your elected officials to bring forward ambitious and just climate solutions
- Move the climate conversation forward even if the letter you submit is not published

STEPS

1. **Customize the letter** to the editor, below, to include:
 - a. Relevant climate impacts (the **highlighted** section)
 - b. Your name, relevant credentials, and city
2. **Look up instructions** for how to submit a letter to the editor to your local paper. You can find this information by typing “how to submit a letter to the editor to (name of paper)” in an online search. To assist, here is a [directory](#) of the most popular US newspapers by state, federal district and US territories.
3. **Submit your LTE**, and promote the campaign in **social media**.
4. Let us know you have taken this action by [filling out this form](#).
5. If and **when you get published**, [let us know](#)! We’re keeping track of campaign progress and we want to amplify your great work in social media. Join us!

TIPS

- Smaller newspapers can be easier to get your letter printed
- Include your contact information so that the newspaper can contact you if need be.
- Target word count is usually 150-200 words. Be sure to review your publication’s guidelines.
- Your letter is more likely to get published if it is in response to, or references, a recent article from that paper (e.g. Regarding “Article Name” (Section, Publish Date))

SAMPLE LTE

(150-200 words)

Highlighted section indicates where you can customize

Dear Editor,

During this August recess, as our Senators and Congresspeople come home from DC, we should all ask that they look around and see the ways climate change is impacting our community and

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country. I care about our changing climate because I see the impacts severe storms, worsening allergies, and increased food prices are having on my family and community. We stand together on this. 78% of Americans now say they personally are concerned about climate change. 96% of us believe we have a right to live in a healthy environment with clean air and water (ecoAmerica, 2021).

We need to solve the climate emergency, not just put another bandage on it. We can accelerate and increase our actions to eliminate carbon pollution, restore thriving nature, and prioritize solutions that include and are fair to all our neighbors. Each of us needs to take steps to eliminate all fossil fuel pollution in our homes, workplaces, communities, and in the nation through systemic change.

I personally have committed to cutting my climate pollution in half by signing onto MomentUs. Please join me yourself, and urge our policy makers to do the same.

Sincerely,

Your Name, Credentials <MD, CfH Ambassador, etc.>, Org, City