

PEACE DEMANDS ACTION



HOW TO:

Write to your Member of Congress

Hand-written letters to your Member of Congress are the single most effective long distance way to advocate for peace.

Congress tracks every hand written letter they receive, and these personal letters from constituents not only help educate policy makers about the issue, but they demonstrate that their constituents genuinely care and are concerned with the issue they are writing about.

Here are tips for writing your letter:

1. **Address the letter formally:** Dear Senator to Senators, and Dear Representative to Members of Congress.
2. **Write an Introduction:** Introduce yourself as a constituent, the topic you are writing on (including any specific legislation) and what you are asking the Senator/Representative to do.
3. **Support Your Position:** As bullet points, insert 1-3 short supporting facts on why you are asking your Representative to take a specific action. Because you want the letter to be as convincing as possible, try to connect their platform or past votes to this issue.
4. **Make a Connection:** Why are you writing about this issue? A closing section of 1 or 2 sentences should re-iterate the ask and explain, concisely, why this matters to you or your community.
5. **Sign it Formally:** To sign off the letter, put on separate lines your signed name, printed name and your address. The address is required so the Representative knows this is coming from a constituent.

If your Representative votes your way, be sure to write them a thank you letter to follow up!